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AND China Oderland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 21st October, at Seremban, the wife of ALF. LANDELL, Superintendent Revenue Surveys, Negri Sembilan, Straits Settlements, of a son.
On the 31st October, at 31, Markham Road, Shanghai, the wife of H. R. HEARSON, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 29th October, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, by the Rev. S. S. Walker, DAVID YOUNGER MUIR, of Glasgow, 2nd engineer, s.s. *Zamania*, to CHRISTIAN MARY HISLOP, daughter of JOHN HISLOP, Dennistoun, Glasgow, Scotland.

On the 1st November, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., ARTHUR RICHARD MILLER, to FLORENCE EMILY SOPER.

On the 4th November, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, J. A. TARRANT, son of H. W. TARRANT, of London, to CECILIA MILLAR, daughter of ANDREW MILLAR, of Hongkong.

DEATHS.

On the 27th October, at the Shanghai General Hospital, ANGELO V. P. PEREIRA, aged 46 years.
On the 1st November, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, HENRY LOOKE, aged 42 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 10th October arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Parramatta*, on the 7th November (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

A floating dock of 1,600 tons capacity is being completed at Kiel for use at Kiaochau.

Admiral Stakhelberg with a powerful Russian squadron has sailed for the Far East. Though some warships are returning home, the Russian naval force in the Orient will be much strengthened.

A Brussels telegram states that the news is confirmed that King Leopold and a Franco-Belgian syndicate have acquired a large block of shares in the Canton-Hankow Railway Company. The agreement stipulates that half the materials for the railway shall be bought in Belgium and half in the United States.

Lord Camborne stated in the House of Commons on the 4th inst. that the Government's general position toward affairs in the Yangtze region has undergone no change. It is proposed shortly to lay papers on the table concerning the evacuation of Weihaiwei and containing information about England's position on the Yangtze.

The German Minister of Marine, in connection with the sending out of a new river gunboat to China, recently declared that at least three German river gunboats are necessary for the river patrolling service in China, if such service is to be kept up in an efficient manner. Additional river gunboats will be asked for in the next Naval Budget.

It has been decided by lot that the French nominee, Professor Regnault, shall be the representative of the European Powers in the Japanese House Tax arbitration at the Hague Court. England had proposed Sir Edward Fry, P.C., D.C.L., and Germany Herr Maritz. Japan's representative is Baron Montono, Japanese Minister in Paris.

The *Saturday Review* of the 1st November argues that the resources of Manchuria will be developed and its trade increased more under Russian than under Chinese auspices. British interests will gain, if differential duties are firmly opposed. Japan is an uncertain factor in the situation, for Russia established in Manchuria menaces Corea—and Japan will feel compelled to resist Russian ascendancy in Corea.

A Peking despatch states that here is a report in Court circles that the Empress Dowager appears bent on making H.E. Chang Chih-tung actual Viceroy of the Liangkang provinces soon after H. E.'s assumption of the acting Viceroyship. What reasons influence the Empress Dowager to take such a step has not transpired, but the opinion general amongst those who know the peculiar circumstances governing the Liangkang appears to be unanimous that her Majesty is playing with fire. Viceroy Chang on his own part, however, is determined that he will not accept the honour should it ever be offered him, and H.E. has, it is understood, already placed his resignation of the Government service in the hands of certain friends at Court to present to the Empress Dowager if she should persist in making him substantive Viceroy of the provinces in question. Finally, it is stated that H. E. has himself strongly recommended to the Throne as the late Viceroy Liu Kung-yi's successor the present Viceroy of the Yun-Kuei provinces, H.E. Wei Kuang-tao, who possesses every qualification necessary for holding such an important post.

The cholera epidemic in the Philippines is happily showing every indication of abatement. During last week several days passed without any cases being reported in Manila. In the provinces there is a very encouraging diminution.

Viceroy Yuan Shikai has sent in his representation after consulting with Wang Wen-shao on the question of organising a standing army in each province. The Viceroy proposes to have 20,000 troops in Chihli.

A telegram to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* dated Berlin, 28th October, says:—In consideration of the very small practical use of the Mackay treaty, Germany does not intend to close a similar Treaty with China.

The proposal to extend the Japanese Navy is now gaining supporters among the prominent statesmen in Tokyo, it is reported, and Admiral Yamamoto desires to construct the cruisers, gunboats, and torpedo destroyers, covered by the extension scheme, at the naval yards of Yokosuka, Kure, and Sasebo, thus leaving only the battleships to be ordered from abroad—probably from England.

It is said in Chinese official circles in Canton that H.E. Tak Sow, the present Acting Viceroy of the Two Kwang provinces, is to be transferred to Foochow, where he will occupy the post of Tartar General. H.E. Li Hing-yui, Acting Provincial Governor, is to be made Acting Viceroy of the Two Kwang, it is reported, while Chwang, late Hoppo of Canton will succeed to Li's place.

A telegram to the *Mainichi*, dated Peking, 23rd October, says that the Viceroy of Shensi and Kansu wires to the Foreign Department that General Tung Fuh-siang is at Keyuen-hsien with 50,000 troops. His attitude is hostile and the condition of affairs is serious. The same telegram states that Mr. de Witte, Russian Finance Minister, has gone to Tientsin from Newchwang. He is not expected to visit Peking.

A Berlin despatch of the 30th ult. says:—The negotiations concerning the evacuation of Shanghai are at a standstill at the present moment. Germany, being in possession of sufficiently satisfactory declarations from the Chinese Government, is willing to withdraw, in case the same is done by the other Powers simultaneously and the policy of the open door on the Yangtze acknowledged by all of them.—A Peking despatch to Japan says:—The reason Germany, in unison with France, signed the agreement with Prince Ching regarding the withdrawal of troops from Shanghai, is reported to be due to Germany's failure to place Chihli and Shantung in the sphere of German influence. Since then Germany has been trying to defeat the English idea of a sphere of influence in the Yangtze Valley, and this became evident when Great Britain commenced active movements regarding the Hunan affair. Germany then approached Prince Ching with a proposal to evacuate Shanghai, the idea being to forestall other powers in their relations with China. It is, however, reported that Great Britain, having no further trouble in South Africa, will duly protect British interest in the Yangtze Valley, insisting on a satisfactory settlement of the Hunan affair. This is why the question of a withdrawal of the foreign troops at Shanghai is at a standstill.

BRITAIN AND THE CHENGCHOW MURDERS.

(Daily Press, 5th November.)

For the past six days Hongkong has been thrown into a state bordering at least on excitement by an unwonted display of naval activity in this, usually the restful season of the year for the warships on the China station, accompanied by a sudden cessation in the movement of troops leaving Hongkong for the South. Naturally the rumours arising from such a combination of events have been numerous and wild. It only wanted the arrival of alarming news from the North to cause something approaching a panic. But Shanghai, the home of "bundlers," was silent. This at least proved one thing, that no serious trouble had occurred in Shanghai itself over the evacuation, as some people imagined. Furthermore, as those whose business compelled them to watch the home money-market carefully pointed out, there was no agitation of that market which indicated international complications or even a serious difficulty with China. A consideration of these facts led to the abatement of any scare in Hongkong and the theory became general at the beginning of this week that the naval activity was of the nature of an experimental demonstration, or at any rate did not portend anything very grave, whereas the detaining of the Fusiliers in Hongkong was but a coincidence. The arrival from the North yesterday of the Shanghai papers up to last Saturday's date helps us at least to form an estimate of the situation actually based on trustworthy reports. We may now examine what intelligence has come to hand.

In the first place, it may be said that all the information which reaches us points to the naval activity here being occasioned by the necessity of a strong appeal to the Chinese Imperial Government in connection with the Chengchow murders on the 15th August last. Diplomatic relations between Britain and China came to breaking point over this when Sir ERNEST SATOW refused to attend the Imperial audience at Peking on the 18th ultimo. With reference to this the *Peking and Tientsin Times* says that the essential points of the case were these:—In the official documents transmitted to Sir ERNEST SATOW by the Wai Wu Pu on the recent murder of British subjects at Chengchow, there were certain characters used in connection with the British name that our Legation people deemed objectionable, if not positively offensive. The Minister drew formal attention to their presence, and received what he deemed an inadequate explanation of apology. Sir ERNEST instantly took the only course open to a Minister with any just sense of the dignity of his Sovereign and his mission, and absented himself from the audience. This explanation of Sir ERNEST SATOW's attitude, it may be remarked, is hardly sufficient. It is obvious that the Chinese Government had offended more deeply than by a mere indiscreet use of Chinese terms about a "barbarian" nation. That this was so is practically proved by the letter published in another column from the Hankow correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*. The writer of that letter gives a concise account of the massacre and of the attitude of the Chinese local officials before, during, and after the event. Nothing could have been more brutal and wicked. We have never been supporters of indiscriminate missionary activity nor of the policy of making attacks on missionaries an excuse for wholesale executions or for extorting concessions from China. But in

the present case we are in hearty accord with the Hankow correspondent of our Northern contemporary that, "if this pastime of butchering inoffensive British subjects, as if they were so many mad dogs, is ever to be put a stop to, the responsible officials must be dealt with." The Chinese Government did not make the slightest attempt to deal with them in the Chengchow case, even though the Governor of the province went so far as to denounce them and edicts for their "degradation" were issued. The demands of Consul-General FRASER, one of the British consular officials of the type required, but rare, in China, and the response of the Chinese authorities, are set forth in the letter from Hankow. It is unnecessary to expatiate on the dishonest evasiveness or the contemptuous levity (to use a phrase already applied by a London contemporary) displayed by the Chinese. We may call attention to the last paragraph in the Hankow letter "His Majesty's Government and Minister, . . . satisfied with the justice of their demands, have ordered up the gunboats. The probability is that all will be settled before they arrive. The Chinese authorities no longer argue, but appeal *ad misericordiam* to have the terms mitigated, especially to have the decapitation altered to something else. If H.M. Government stands to its terms the Chinese will give in: in any case what is insisted on now will be obtained." This we are glad to think. We must, however, refer to one story reported by the *North-China Daily News* as in circulation among the Shanghai mandarins last week. According to this, when the news of the despatch from Hongkong to Shanghai and Yangtze ports of a large British squadron of armoured ships and gunboats was transmitted by telegraph to the Grand Secretary Yung Lu in Peking, the latter at once went to Eho Park and showed the telegram to the Empress Dowager. The conference between the two is stated to have been very secret, but when the Grand Secretary left the Presence he was distinctly heard to say: "Well, there is no help for it but to send troops to oppose any hostile movements." This he said repeatedly, to no one, however, in particular, concludes the story. Perhaps too much attention must not be paid to this. Commonsense is not expected of Yung Lu, who is hardly likely to have been convinced, by the manner in which some of the prominent criminals in the "Boxer" rising got off, that it is necessary to be thorough in carrying out promises of punishment for outrages against Europeans. It is hoped, however, by this time that he and the rest of the Chinese Government have been brought to their senses, and that the demonstration which lately alarmed us has by now had its effect.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION AND SIR J. MACKAY'S TREATY.

(Daily Press, 3rd November.)

Notwithstanding the extraordinary threat held over it, that if it failed to express its approval of Sir JAMES MACKAY's treaty with China, the China Association would "extinguish itself," and would lose its own special *raison d'être*, the Shanghai branch made bold on the 27th ultimo to contravene the somewhat mean-spirited cajoleries of the Committee, and forced the acceptance of an amendment, which although ostensibly framed to "save the face" of the Committee really amounted to a condemnation of its whole proceedings. The criticism to which the Eighth Clause of the treaty, as it is called in many quarters—though convention

would probably be a better term—certainly resulted in showing that in its present form, from errors of omission as well as commission, and also from serious defects in the wording which throw grave doubts upon its correct rendering, the treaty is, even when compared with former conventions with China, a monument of blundering; and from these considerations alone will need careful revision and amendment. But its defects go further than this, and are fundamental, inasmuch as when sifted its clauses are found utterly to belie the proposed objects it was ostensibly put forward as ensuring. A strange point was somewhat feebly attempted to be made in its favour, that the Association has more than once pointed out that an increase of import duties even to ten per cent., if it could be made to supersede the illegal taxation to which trade in the interior is at present subjected, would be gladly accepted. "See," Mr. DUNGEON triumphantly exclaimed, "how you would stultify the Association." You have all through favoured the exchange of *lekin* for higher import duties; yet when Sir JAMES MACKAY actually extinguishes forever *lekin*, as an abomination not to be mentioned amongst the elect, you cavil at his having raised the import duty to a miserable twelve and a half per cent." To this somewhat foolish charge of inconsistency there were two replies, both effective. In the first place the proposed increase to twelve and a half per cent. is a very different thing from the ten per cent. spoken of by the Association. As matters stood under the then existing treaties, only the Import Tariff of five per cent. was actually payable, and the majority of the imports, going as they do into consumption in the neighbourhood of the ports, have never been called on to pay any surcharge. Moreover there was a large duty-free list, the imports under which, taking Mr. DUNGEON's own showing, now amount to some ten million taels per annum. On both of these it is intended to raise an additional duty. The excess under the system thought of by the Association would have amounted to, at the outside, some fifteen million taels per annum; on the scheme proposed by Sir JAMES MACKAY the difference would be at least twenty-six and a half millions. It is possible in all things to pay too dearly for one's whistle; and so evidently thought the majority of the members. But there is a second point, of even graver importance, brought into prominence at the discussion. Sir JAMES MACKAY has stated that he has succeeded in abolishing the very name of *lekin*, and has so controlled the number of custom houses in the interior that they cannot become an obstacle to trade. Now, what is the state of the case? As a rule the barriers which have attained notoriety by their ubiquity and the damage they inflict on trade are not known as *lekin* stations but by many other names varying in different localities. The stipulation to suppress the name practically then amounts to little—words, mere words, in fact; but the supporters of the treaty would have us believe it is the principle that is to be abolished. Unfortunately this is left to be understood, and as hitherto the Chinese have invariably—and can we quite blame them?—held that they are entitled to interpret their privileges as extending to the furthest limits an indefinite clause may be made to bear, we may feel assured they will continue to adopt the same practice in the future. The way is in fact prepared for such an interpretation. Sir JAMES MACKAY has stated in so many words that the increased duties are in compensation for the abolition of *lekin*, and most people

were prepared to accept this as the meaning of the treaty; but is it so? We find on the contrary that looking to the document itself this is to be by no means the case. *Lekin* (the name) is indeed to be abolished, but instead two other sources of revenue are legalised, and the native authorities are to be allowed to levy two other taxes, one a "Consumption" the other a "Destination" tax, neither of which are defined in amount or method of levying, and the latter of which is to be leviable on foreign goods, in addition to the proposed "Surtax." This in fact, and not the Surtax, was the "compensation," as interpreted by the high provincial authorities, they were to receive in consideration of the removal of the word *lekin* from their official language. Such is the meaning that any legal mind on carefully studying the wording of the new instrument must place on it. Even the Committee, desirous as it was to carry the opinion of the meeting in favour of the treaty, could not escape from this contention, and somewhat ignominiously was compelled to accept the amendment offered by Mr. BLAND, which seemed to offer an exit, little larger than a rat-hole it is true, from an untenable position.

As Mr. LITTLE, with more practical experience of the ordinary language of the official classes, and more practical knowledge of the ruinous nature of the present system of raising revenue, plainly pointed out, the new style of levying these internal dues must from the very nature of the case become far more inquisitorial and far more oppressive than that at the moment existing, and that so far from easing the friction now existing the very stipulations entered into by Sir JAMES MACKAY will of very necessity result in a wider extension of the present disabilities under which foreign trade has been vainly struggling.

Another curious instance of the substitution of a mere name for a grave fact is afforded in the stipulation that there are to be no more "Custom Houses" than lately existed opened in the interior and the number of there was stated as "about" forty. Now, as Mr. E. S. LITTLE pointed out, the number of Custom Houses recognised by the Imperial Government in the provinces is, instead of forty, several hundreds, each with its own individual branches; and as if to stultify itself the treaty proceeds to say that the transit dues retained on goods for native use or for exportation shall be paid at the "first Custom House" they shall pass. It may be a matter of indifference whether a station be called a Custom House, a *lekin* station, or a mere barrier. But it is unfortunate that we shall in the case of the "treaty" being notified, be left without the means of protesting as illegal against any of the hindrances to trade unless these should bear the names of *lekin* or "Customs" barriers; which, we may be assured, they never will.

KOWLOON RESERVATION QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 8th November.)

We fear that European residents in this Colony who were in hopes that in Kowloon at least some reservation of land would be made within which the Chinese would not be permitted to live in immediate proximity to Europeans will not be much consoled by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S assurance to H.E. the Governor of his "entire approval of the principle of the establishment of a reservation in which persons of a cleanly and healthy mode of life will be safe from the risk of infection due to the neighbourhood of lower classes of Chinese with insanitary

habits." Mr. CHAMBERLAIN consents to the reservation of the area in question, but considers that "instead of being confined to Europeans it should be open to all persons, whether European or Chinese, who are approved by the Governor." The Secretary of State for the Colonies is not in sympathy with any scheme to "enable the European section of the community to obtain low rents to the exclusion of Chinese of good standing." Now, this expression of opinion is very fine in principle, but we venture to think that it is an unfair statement of the case for an European reservation and that a little local knowledge on the part of the Secretary of State would have prevented him from falling into error. Unfortunately we cannot expect that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN will extend his trip to the South African colonies and return to England by way of Hongkong; were he to do so he might find considerable reasons for modifying his views. Perhaps the case for such a reservation as has just been refused has not been stated as well as it might have been. An European reservation is not desired merely to give Europeans a low-rented area to the disadvantage of the Chinese of good standing. The history of what has happened in the City of Victoria will best show what threatens Kowloon. There was an Ordinance passed fourteen years ago, No. 16 of 1888, of which this was the Preamble:—"Whereas the health and comfort of Europeans in a tropical climate demand conditions which are inconsistent with the neighbourhood of houses crowded with occupants and otherwise used after the manner customary with the Chinese inhabitants, and whereas the influx of Chinese into the Colony tends constantly to narrow the area of the City of Victoria where such conditions are attainable, and it is desirable to reserve by law a district wherein such conditions may be secured." Now, though the Colony has grown so immensely since 1888, there has been no extension of the European reservation in Victoria, and we see Chinese houses all around, effectually preventing that extension except at a considerable expense to the public purse. Meanwhile houses built for Europeans in the Hill district have been acquired by the better-class Chinese, who are willing to pay the enormously increased rentals, so that the result is a great scarcity of European residences at a reasonable rent. It was thought that in the laying out of Kowloon, ample space being at the Government's disposal, a strictly European reservation would afford relief to the undeniable want of residential accommodation for Europeans, without inflicting any hardship on the Chinese. The Secretary of State for the Colonies has decided otherwise and so, though there is to be a reservation in Kowloon, it is not to be an European reservation but one for Europeans and the wealthier among the Chinese, the Governor's approval—a changeable quantity, owing to the changes of Governor—being the criterion of eligibility to live in the reservation. It may be argued that the evils of tenement-houses and the contiguity of the lower classes of Chinese will be avoided by those Europeans who live in the new reservation. This is true; but the European of moderate means will still compete for houses with the well-to-do Chinese, and the outcome of this competition will be the same as it has been in parts of the Hill district and elsewhere.

The Japanese Navy Department has decided to build a shallow-draft gunboat for use on the Yangtze. The vessel will be built in Japan, and will be named the *Uji*.

TRADE OF KOWLOON AND LAPPA IN 1901.

(Daily Press, 4th November.)

The trade passing through the nearest Chinese Customs stations to Hongkong cannot fail to be of certain interest to those interested in local commerce, and we therefore may profitably spend a little time in the consideration of the recently issued reports on Kowloon and Lappa in 1901, by Messrs. R. B. MOORHEAD and F. A. CARL respectively. At the so-called Kowloon Customs (for there is of course no Chinese station in the Kowloon district proper) a large percentage of the commodities passing through is rice and other cultivated products. The question of a wet or dry season is therefore of great importance to the annual figures. Mr. MOORHEAD writes:—"The weather at the beginning of the year was very favourable for the rice-crops, and the spring harvest was an exceptionally fine one. This abundance of the local rice caused a fall in the import of the foreign article. Subsequently the 'rainy season' quite belied its name, the rainfall during the summer months being far below the average of many years past. As one result of the drought there was an enormous output of salt, the China-to-China trade in which shows an increase of nearly one million piculs, while the import from foreign countries fell more than 50 per cent. The growth of sugar-cane was checked by the dry season, and the manufacture of sugar in the local factories was considerably lessened. This brought about a great increase in the import of foreign-made sugar, the figures for white sugar, in comparison with those for 1900, being trebled." Of other trades, match-making is making great advances in Kwangtung and a serious rival to the Japanese match trade is now in existence. An increased import of cotton yarn was noticeable, while there was a decline in its price, so that cotton mills had a good year. The total revenue of the year 1901 was Tls. 404,450, an increase of no less than Tls. 54,426 on the previous year's figures. In addition to this a "Granary tax" on rice and paddy exported brought in Hk. Tls. 22,437, though only levied from the 6th March to the end of the year. A decrease of nearly two million taels from the previous year's figures occurred in foreign imports, the net value for 1901 being Hk. Tls. 18,956,231. But, as owing to the abundant local rice-harvest the falling off in the import of rice and paddy was Hk. Tls. 3,462,901, the remaining foreign import, really increased, the improvement in the opium figures being marked. Altogether 686 piculs of foreign opium passed through the Kowloon stations, the highest figures since 1893, when 916 piculs passed through. In 1899 only 459 piculs were recorded. Exports to foreign countries showed an advance on the 1900 figures of nine per cent., the total value for 1901 being Hk. Tls. 22,919,708. The increase, says Mr. MOORHEAD, is due to the slightly enhanced value of most of the principal commodities. The export of building materials was considerable, owing to the erection of so many new houses in Hongkong. 574 more steam-launches passed the Kowloon stations than in 1900, the total being 4,431. Junks increased in number by 2½ per cent. Altogether 49,808 launches and junks combined entered and cleared. Passenger traffic showed an increase of 34,891, or 11½ per cent. on the previous year's figures. No treasure was reported as carried by the junks,

"whose masters and passengers are unwilling to declare any treasure they may possess, for fear of attracting pirates"—a significant statement.

Turning now to the Lappa report, we find that 1901 was a record year for the junk trade, the total value amounting to Hk. Tls. 14,606,412, Hk. Tls. 1,033,343 better than in 1900. An examination of the statistics, says Mr. CARL, will show that this increase is entirely due to the growth of the export and native import trades, which show advances of about Hk. Tls. 606,000 and 744,000 respectively. The above figures do not include the portion borne by the Hongkong-Macao trading junks. Mr. CARL continues:—"As the total exports passing the Lappa Stations show an increase of over Hk. Tls. 600,000, we must conclude that, owing to quicker despatch and more prompt delivery, the carriage of certain commodities has been transferred from native junks to foreign steamers. Although the total value of the trade is the highest ever recorded at Lappa, it must not be lost sight of that the figures for 1901 include statistics that previous to the end of 1899 (when the Changchow Station was closed) would have appeared in the Kowloon Customs returns. The trade then passing the Changchow Station averaged, at the least, Hk. Tls. 2,000,000 a year, so, after deducting that amount, the Lappa statistics for 1901 represent nothing to boast of. Trade in foreign goods, compared with the values of 1900, actually shows a decrease, principally due to the falling off in the importation of opium, piece goods and rice. Certain districts in the neighbourhood of the newly opened French port, Kwanchauwan, which formerly drew supplies from Macao, have now almost ceased doing so. Direct steamers from Hongkong to that place take considerable quantities of opium and other foreign goods, which trade, of course, no longer comes under the cognisance of the Lappa Customs. Piracy, too, is having a deterrent effect on the junk-traffic, as it brings in an element of uncertainty. Arms-smuggling, from both Hongkong and Macao, was very rife in past years, and it seems almost a just retribution that now the insecurity resulting from this nefarious trade should affect indirectly foreign commerce." Mr. CARL does well to point out that foreigners must bear part of the guilt for the flourishing condition of piracy, but nevertheless it is more than time that the Chinese Government should pay attention to the remarks of their commissioners alike at Canton, Kowloon, and Lappa as to the damage to trade done by pirates in this part of China. The total collection of revenue at Lappa in 1901 was Hk. Tls. 3,625,890, a decrease of over 300,000 taels from the figures of 1900. As stated above, there was a falling off in the importation of opium, piece goods, and rice, and this more than accounted for the decrease. As for the export trade, 1901 can properly be called a record year, Mr. CARL says; the total value was Hk. Tls. 6,246,617, against Hk. Tls. 5,640,729 in 1900 and Hk. Tls. 6,173,279 in 1899. Among the improved items may be noted sugar, various provisions, and building materials for Hongkong and Macao. The number of junks entered and cleared at the Lappa Stations during 1901 was 16,601, representing a tonnage of 965,717 tons—an increase of 1,073 vessels and 49,602 tons over the shipping of 1900. The tonnage is the highest recorded since 1894. Of the junks reported during the year under review, 15,539, of 834,516 tons, were to and

from Chinese ports; 1,001, of 129,401 tons, to and from Hongkong; 52, of 1,346 tons, to and from Kwanchauwan; and 9, of 1,454 tons, to and from Annam. Steamers bound up the West River numbered 1,571, and bound down, 1,576. The number of passengers in junks noted at Lappa was 116,798 inwards and 111,967 outwards, an increase of 19,300 and 14,838 respectively. In addition to the above, the Portuguese steamers *Woon* and *Tai ping* kept up a regular Macao-Samshui service, making 595 trips, during which they carried about a quarter of a million taels' worth of cargo, 16,868 passengers inwards and 16,179 outwards.

WEST RIVER TRADE IN 1901.

(Daily Press, 6th November.)

It we take together the trade reports for 1901 on Wuchow and Samshui, as published in the Imperial Maritime Customs returns, we should be able to form some idea of the progress of West River commerce last year. Mr. E. ALABASTER is the author of the Wuchow report and Mr. J. A. VAN AALST of that for Samshui. Both writers note a great improvement not only on the terrible year of 1900 but on all previous figures. Mr. VAN AALST says:—"The trade of Samshui and its principal stages, Kongmoon and Kumchuk, showed during the year 1901 undoubted signs of its tenacious vitality and unrestrainable tendency to grow and expand, in spite of terrorising piratical spectres and intimidating fiscal realities. If revenue statistics can be believed, trade in the delta, under foreign as well as under native flag, by Chinese junks as well as by foreign-type vessels, trade and its adjuncts, industrial and agricultural productions, rose far above the best year on record, 1899. It may confidently be said that, in spite of its pirates, snakes, insects, inundations, plague, fevers, epidemics, heat, dampness, and a general disrepute attached to it by people for whom Shameen or the Shanghai Bund constitute the whole of China, the West River delta with its soil so rich and fertile, its people so intelligent, active, and progressive, its villages and cities so easy of access, has, if peace gives its blessings, a future, and a great future, before it." Similarly, Mr. ALABASTER speaks of the year's figures at Wuchow being "a record—a term as yet early to apply here." The Foreign Customs revenue of the Samshui district was in all Hk. Tls. 174,707, the best figures known, although such articles as kerosene, piece goods, cotton yarn, etc., passed over to the Native Customs. The protocol tariff, 5 per cent., that came into force on the 11th November last caused a loss instead of an increase in revenue; but, says the Samshui Commissioner, the equalisation of tariffs, which must follow foreign control of Native Customs, cannot but bring back importers to foreign-type vessels and merchandise to Foreign Customs control. "When it is realised that the *lekin*-station at Samshui can produce some Tls. 300,000 a year, an idea can be formed of the junk traffic passing this point and of the revenue capacity of the place." The estimated net value of Wuchow's trade was Hk. Tls. 7,496,243, something like one millions taels in advance of the figures for 1900. The expansion, Mr. ALABASTER writes, is, as precisely as possible, due to the imports, inland transit showing a similar complementary advance. Exports fell away somewhat, but the decline was mainly due to the complete failure of the sugar stocks. The Native Customs competition was also

felt at Wuchow as at Samshui. We could not without devoting a great deal of space to the subject, go into the details of the import and export trades of Samshui and Wuchow, and those therefore who are interested in the possibilities of West River commerce must be recommended to read the entire reports themselves. Their time will not be wasted. We note that Samshui Commissioner recommends an enterprising piece goods firm to establish itself at that port and begin canvassing the North River; Samshui will no doubt then become an important market. Mr. ALABASTER calls attention to the market for ingenious and cheap playthings such as may be seen any day sold in the London Strand.

The Shipping figures for both places were satisfactory. The actual number of vessels visiting Samshui was less than in 1900, but the aggregate tonnage was considerably higher. The steamers which entered and cleared, with tonnage, were:—British 1,170 (275,90 tons); Portuguese, 600 (45,950 tons); Chinese, 2,710 (260,006 tons). 32 British sailing vessels, of 5,756 tons, also entered and cleared. Under Inland Navigation rules, 88 British vessels (1,474 tons), 144 French (1,688 tons) and 8,552 Chinese (98,200 tons) entered and cleared. Mr. VAN AALST writes:—"The aggregate cargo-carrying capacity of the vessels now visiting Samshui is considerably in excess of the port's requirements, with the result that freights have been lowered so as to leave but little margin for profits. But great developments are expected in the delta, and it is on hope that so many steamers manage to live." Interport entries at Wuchow in 1901—479—were practically on a par with those of 1900, but the tonnage—96,540 tons—advanced considerably, largely owing to the appearance of the new stern-wheeler *Sainam*. 304 British steamers (94,052 tons) and 1,556 Chinese (92,442 tons), 192 British sailing vessels (34,906 tons) and 36 Chinese (4,628 tons) entered and cleared under general regulations; while under Inland Navigation rules the figures were:—British 73 (1,874 tons), Chinese 2,484 (33,474 tons). Both in Samshui district (chiefly through Kongmoon) and at Wuchow the passenger traffic was reported to be very flourishing.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on Thursday in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.
Hon. Colonel L. F. BROWN, R.E. (Senior Officer Commanding the Garrison).
Hon. F. H. MAY (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. SIR HENRY E. BERKELEY, Kt. (Attorney-General).
Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).
Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).
Hon. F. W. CLARK (Medical Officer of Health).
Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.
Hon. WEI A YUK.
Hon. C. S. SHARP.
Hon. C. W. DICKSON.
Hon. G. W. F. PL YFAIR.
Hon. R. SHEWAN.
Mr. C. CLEMENTI (Acting Clerk of Councils).
FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 15) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

EUROPEAN RESERVATION AT KOWLOON.
The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid the following letter on the table:—

Downing Street,
4th September, 1902.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Major-General Gascoigne's despatch No. 320 of the 18th of July on the subject of a proposed European reservation near Kowloon.

2. I entirely approve the principle of the establishment of a reservation in which persons of cleanly and healthy mode of life will be safe from the risk of infection due to the neighbourhood of lower classes of Chinese with insanitary habits, but I am not prepared to accept Major-General Gascoigne's view, as expressed in paragraph 6 of despatch, that such a scheme should be used to enable the European section of the community to obtain low rents to the exclusion of Chinese of good standing.

3. While, therefore, I am willing to consent to the reservation of the area in question I consider that instead of being confined to Europeans it should be open to all persons, whether European or Chinese, who are approved by the Governor.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

(Sd.) J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir H. A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have also to mention, with reference to the request of certain unofficial members to see the correspondence relating to the Public Works Commission, that that correspondence will not be laid because it is not yet completed, another communication having been addressed to the Secretary of State; but if any hon. member wishes to see the correspondence I shall be happy to show it in my office.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I am going to ask your Excellency's permission and that of the Council to withdraw from the consideration of this Council the Bill which I introduced, dealing with the questions of public health and buildings, last July. Since that Bill was introduced the matter has been under the further consideration of this Government, and it has been considerably altered, very much, as we think, for the better. Instead of making the alterations in Committee on that Bill, it seemed to me it would be better to withdraw the bill altogether and introduce a fresh Bill dealing with the subject. Therefore I ask first of all permission to withdraw that Bill with the object of introducing another Bill dealing with the same subject.

His EXCELLENCY—You have that permission.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—Then I beg leave to introduce and read for the first time a Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Health and to Buildings.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

OTHER FIRST READINGS.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the following Bills were read a first time:—A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Employers and Servants; a Bill entitled an Ordinance with reference to Collisions between Junks and Ships; and a Bill entitled The New Territories Titles Ordinance.

DEFINITION OF AN "ALIEN."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance relating to the Naturalisation of Aliens.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—May I ask, sir, what is the definition of the word "alien"?

His EXCELLENCY—That will be explained. I think, on the second reading. As a matter of fact, these first readings are simply for the purpose of bringing a Bill under the cognisance of hon. members and enabling them to see it.

Hon. Mr. SHEWAN—At the same time, sir, we wish to know the definition of the word "alien."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It means alien and nothing else. An alien is one who does not owe allegiance to the Crown.

The motion was agreed to.

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

HONGKONG'S CORONATION CONTINGENT.

The following despatch is published in the *Gazette* with reference to Hongkong's Coronation Contingent:—

Downing Street,

London, 26th September 1902.

Sir,—In view of the termination of the Coronation festivities and the departure of the Colonial troops, it becomes my duty to express the pleasure afforded to His Majesty's Government by the presence of a Military Contingent from Hongkong to take part in the ceremonies.

The smartness, soldierly bearing, and good behaviour of the Contingent was a matter for sincere congratulation.

His Majesty's Government are especially glad that it was found possible to prolong the visit beyond the unavoidably deferred date of the Coronation, as the representation of the local forces of almost every portion of the Empire on that day undoubtedly added greatly to the interest of the spectacle.

His Majesty's Government trust that the members of the Contingent will carry back with them a pleasant recollection of their stay in this country on an ever memorable occasion.

I have the honour to be, Sir,—Your most obedient, humble servant.

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

THE CHENGCHOW MASSACRE CASE.

The Hankow correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes under date 27th October:—Since this case has resulted in a naval demonstration by the British on the Yangtze, it may be as well to state the facts again. Although nothing new has come to light, and all that was previously known has already been published, yet the public is notorious for its short memory: it needs frequent refreshing.

Chengchow is a city in the north-west of the province of Hunan, and although a Fu—a city of the first order—it is really quite a small place. It consists of one long street, with the usual liberal allowance of civil and military yamens in it which Fu cities possess. Some five years ago, the China Inland Mission opened a station there, and up till the Boxer year the missionaries lived in the city in perfect peace and quietness. In common with all other interior mission stations, it was abandoned during the Boxer troubles, but was occupied again by Messrs. Bruce and Lewis when things settled down—that was at the end of last year. Mr. Bruce was a missionary of six years' standing, and Mr. Lewis of three: both were highly capable men.

Nothing went amiss till the month of July when the cholera broke out and raged in the neighbourhood, as it did over all Central China at that time. To their great alarm the missionaries learned that the people were accusing them of causing the disease by putting poison in the wells. Although, like the members of the C.I.M. generally, they had no wish to have much to do with the yamen, yet they considered the affair serious enough to cause them to do their best to obtain official help or protection.

There were two civil, and quite a number of military officials, in the city to whom they could apply, but naturally they turned first to the district magistrate, who was Wan Chao-hsin, and was shortly to be leaving office. On the 26th of July the missionaries approached him and asked him to issue a proclamation to quiet the rumours, and also gave him a copy of a placard which had been posted up accusing them of having poisoned the wells. The magistrate promised to attend to the matter, but carefully did nothing. On the 2nd of August they learned that they were going to be put to death during the eighth month, and on the 12th of August they approached the Prefect, evidently having lost all hope of the Hsien. He was a man of good family, Wu Chi-chun by name—H. E. Wang Wen-hsiao is his uncle. They gave the Prefect a copy of another inflammatory placard, and he also promised to issue a proclamation, but did nothing.

About this time an Eurasian gentleman, an agent of the Imperial Post Office, arrived in

the city. He had been sent out to open a line of offices by the Yuen river route through to Kweichan, and carried with him some \$3,000 cash and stamps to a still greater value. He put up in an inn opposite the Hsien's yamen, and, as soon as he realised the situation, went and, producing his credentials, asked the district magistrate to issue a proclamation. This, as usual, was promised readily enough, but it never appeared. Apparently the magistrate had no intention of interfering with the manifest course of events.

The missionaries do not appear to have applied to the military officials at all, although there was a camp of soldiers at their own back door. The military forces of the place were under a *Tung-ling* named Ye Wu-lin. He had been there for many years, and was a man of great influence in the neighbourhood. By general report, he was exceedingly anti-foreign, and had once dismissed one of his subordinates for being friendly with the missionaries. His second in command was Ching Yao-k'uei, who was stationed with his men on the opposite side of the river from the city, and was under the *Tung-ling's* orders on no account to leave his post. On the river itself was a naval *Tung-ling*, named Chao Yu-tien with half-a-dozen gunboats in charge. Finally, in the city there was the city garrison, with its camp just behind the mission, the chief of which was the *Tu-ze*, a gentleman named Yu Liang-ju.

The fatal day was the 15th of August. On this day, the post office man, losing faith in the Hsien's promises, in turn applied to the Prefect to have steps taken. The Prefect referred him back to the district magistrate again, who was the new man who had just taken over the seals. His name was Chen Hsi-nien, and he promised immediate attention to the business in hand, but whether his promise was worth any more than that of his predecessor was never to be known. On the way back to his inn the Eurasian gentleman met with the mob come out to slay the foreigners, and was attacked by them at once. Fortunately the Hsien was near, and intervened with all speed. He was able to rescue him, but badly injured, and with the loss of all his cash and stamps.

The mob next hurried on to the mission, passing en route the *Tung-ling's* yamen, who carefully made no move to check them, notwithstanding that the Prefect insists that he (the Prefect) had the previous day ordered him to send soldiers to protect the mission. Mr. Bruce appears to have been killed at once on the premises—he was simply pounded to death—but Mr. Lewis escaped and ran for protection to the camp of the garrison, only to have the gate slammed in his face and be driven back into the hands of the mob. He was killed on the street in front of a house occupied by a petty expectant official named Chen Hsing-lo, who admits having been a spectator of the murder, and says he expostulated with the crowd, although others say he actually bounded them on.

Concerning these main facts there is no dispute at all. The matter was gone into most thoroughly by Vice-Consul Giles on the spot, and the native authorities admit them. Further Mr. Lewis's diary was found giving particulars of rumours, the placards, and their vain applications for help. The last entry is dated 14th August and says: "A *weiyuan* called today. The new Hsien took office. Rumours say that three pigs have been killed and the feast prepared, etc., and that we are to be *hors de combat*."

After the affair, the authorities had it all their own way for as long as made it plain what they considered was suitable action to take in the case. The Mission, according to its policy, made no demand upon them; but accepted gratefully a couple of coffins, and a small piece of ground in which to bury their dead. The damages done to the mission-house were also repaired by the officials without being asked. The Governor ordered that the murderers were to be seized and executed, with the result that in a short time nine of them paid the penalty with their heads. He also denounced the officials for degradation, and the necessary edicts were duly issued. At first, it looked as if an exception was to be made in the case of the big men, the Prefect and *Tung-ling*, but after an interval they too were denounced.

However, the British Government did not regard this as a satisfactory settlement. But for the culpable connivance of the officials the

affair could never have happened. They had plenty of warning, and knew perfectly well what was planned, and about to take place. It is now becoming evident, that if this pastime of butchering inoffensive British subjects, as if they were so many mad dogs, is ever to be put a stop to, the responsible officials must be dealt with. It is also perfectly well known that there is very little difference between the so-called degradation of officials in such cases, and letting them off scot free. In due time, therefore, Consul-General Fraser demanded:—

1. That the *Tu-sze*, Liu Liang-ju, who was the direct cause of Mr. Lewis being done to death, through handing him over to the mob after he ran to his camp for protection, be decapitated.

2. That the *Tung-ling*, Yen Wu-ling, to whose anti-foreignism the affair was originally due, and to whose influence was due the fact that no subordinate official dare give protection, be also sentenced to decapitation, but the sentence may be remitted to banishment to the frontier for life.

3. That the two "promising" officials, Wu the Prefect, and Wan the Hsien, be banished for five years and never employed again.

4. That Colonel Chang, and Commodore Chao, be dismissed the service for ever.

5. That a fine of £10,000 be inflicted on the officials and gentry of Chengchow.

6. That a tablet be erected in Chengchow setting forth the crime and the punishment to the eternal disgrace of the place.

7. That all be published in the *Peking Gazette* for the information of the Empire.

These measures are pretty thorough, and if carried out might be counted on to work a cure. Considering all that has gone before, and all the serious results that will follow to China herself, if these massacres are not put a stop to, no one can say that they are either too hard or unnecessary. However, the Chinese authorities considered them outrageous. They hold that:—

There is no precedent for executing an official in such a case (the more pity that it should be so).

That the Protocol made and provided by the foreign Ministers themselves to meet such cases, only demands that culpable officials be dismissed, and never that they shall be executed.

That in no civilised country in the world could the death penalty be inflicted in such a case as is here.

That if magistrates are to be decapitated at the request of foreigners, they would never again be able to control the people, and massacres would take place everywhere, and all the time.

With these and similar arguments they have declined to agree to the demands till now. In reply it might be pointed out that the punishment they consider sufficient to atone for the massacre of foreigners is the same as they measure out for the embezzlement of a few taels, or for making a mistake of a character in writing a despatch. That if any important personage of the official class were to lose his life under similar circumstances, plenty of precedents would be found for executions. That it is only the anti-foreign official who a head is so sacred: two years ago they beheaded friendly officials fast enough, and for no other reason than that they were friendly to foreigners.

However, His Majesty's Government and Minister have not been chopping logic with them. Satisfied with the justice of their demands they have ordered up the gunboats. The probability is that all will be settled before they arrive. The Chinese authorities no longer argue, but appeal *ad misericordiam* to have the terms mitigated, especially to have the decapitation altered to something else. If H.M. Government stands to its terms the Chinese will give in: in any case what is insisted on now will be obtained.

[N.B.—*Tu-sze* is the designation of a First Captain of a battalion of troops of the Territorial Army garrisoning a city. A *Tung-ling* is a brigadier commanding more than one battalion].

The *Shanghai Mercury* of the 31st ult publishes a statement from its Hankow correspondent to the following effect:—There are eight men-of-war here just now, intending to make a demonstration. Two ships of the Nang-yang squadron are here also. They are formidable looking ships.

The *Universal Gazette* states that since the display of naval force at Hankow by the British, the Peking Government has acceded to the several demands of the British Minister, only the matter of the severe punishment of the *Taotai* and the military officer of Chengchow is still under negotiation, but the Minister is most firm and insists that all his demands should be acceded to. It is said again that Sir Ernest Satow demands the punishment of six officials, viz, the two military officers who are to suffer capital punishment; the Chengchow magistrate to be banished for ever; the Prefect to be banished for five years, while two other military officers are to be cashiered for ever. The second demand is an indemnity of five thousand pounds, part of which is to go to the families of the murdered missionaries and the remainder for missionary purposes, while the third demand is that a memorial arch, inscribed with a suitable edict, be erected before the Gate of the Chengchow prefectural yamen.

ENQUIRY INTO COLLAPSES OF HOUSES.

KOWLOON CITY ROAD.

The enquiry into the fatal collapses of houses in Kowloon City Road on 18th July last was resumed at ten o'clock yesterday morning, Mr. H. L. Denny, Acting Crown Solicitor, appeared on behalf of the Government, while Mr. H. W. Looker represented the architects, Messrs. Leigh & Orange, and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson the contractors, the Loong Cheong firm.

Tam A Ling, of the Loong Cheong contracting firm, was recalled. The houses on Lot 1,107 were finished in March, he said, and those on Lot 1,108 between 8th April and 7th May this year. The most northern wall on the latter block bulged out in the fourth moon, which commenced on 8th May and finished on 5th June, and the only explanation he could give of its bulging out was that perhaps the edges of the bricks were not quite dry, and the workmen were hurrying up; the foundations did not sink. This wall was partly pulled down and rebuilt, and these operations were completed in the fifth moon—from 6th June to 4th July. Some cracks appeared in the wall after the typhoon of 2nd August. These cracks were caused by the typhoon; that was their only explanation. After the typhoon, two kitchens fell down on Lot 1,108, and there were also some cracks.

Mr. Denny:—Where?

Witness:—There, in the northern wall.

Continuing, he said he did not notice any cracks in the party walls between the houses on Lot 1,108; he was unaware whether the western wall, from which plaster fell during the typhoon, bulged outwards, as he had not plumbed it. Two tie-rods were put in between party walls of the block on Lot 1,108 since the houses were finished. The southern wall of the houses on Lot 1,107 was also cracked by the typhoon on 2nd August and cracked down. Rain beat the plaster off the western wall on this lot, but witness was not able to say whether that wall was plumb or not. He had not seen any cracks in the party walls of Lot 1,107. Whatever had happened to the walls on the two blocks was caused by the typhoon.

Further examined, witness said he had built some godowns for the Wharf and Godown Co., and the western wall was moved by the typhoon, but was now shored up. It was not the case that one of the gable walls of 22 Chinese houses built for the same Company by witness was cracked; there was a slight crack near the kitchen.

As to the cause of the collapse in Kowloon City Road, witness could only attribute that to the typhoon. The houses were well-built, and the materials were good. He saw the houses after they had fallen down, and found that the bricks were hard. He looked carefully to see whether there were any soft bricks about, and could not find any. He had no complaint whatever to make of the way in which the sub-contractors did their work.

Ng Leong, Tam A Ling's partner in the Loong Cheong firm, was the next witness. He said that he personally superintended the building of the fifty houses in Kowloon City Road for the Land Investment Co.; he spoke

a little English, and was the English-speaking foreman referred to in the specifications. He was at the houses daily from six or seven in the morning until after the evening meal.

Witness was then taken over ground that had already been covered by the evidence of his partner. As to the collapse, he was quite certain that No. 30 fell first, and that No. 32 fell back on No. 30. After the collapse, he examined the bricks and found them all to be hard; he did not look whether there were any soft ones. The reason the two houses fell was on account of the typhoon. Witness then detailed defects that had appeared in the two blocks of houses since the typhoon of 2nd August, and the steps that had been taken to remedy them. There was a European overseer always on the spot looking after the building of the houses; sometimes he went to look after some property near the Docks belonging to the Land Investment Company. There were also twenty houses belonging to Leigh & Orange that came under the overseer's supervision; these houses were commenced in the eighth moon last year—beginning 13th September, 1901. The Government inspector of buildings, Mr. Crisp, also looked at the fifty houses in Kowloon City Road whilst they were building; he came sometimes once a week, twice a week, or once in two weeks. He never came at any fixed time, or gave notice when he was coming. He saw all the materials used in the building of the walls of the houses, and never said they were not good. The architect visited the houses sometimes once and sometimes twice a week, and when he came witness went round the work with him. He never said anything to witness about the quality of the materials, and he saw the bricks and mortar that were being used. Tam A Ling saw the work sometimes once and twice a week and sometimes once a fortnight. The contract was taken for \$145,000, but witness could not say what profit there might be until all the work was finished and the accounts were made up.

In answer to Mr. Denny, witness said that the work on all fifty houses had already been finished, but as the accounts had not been made up he did not know whether he would gain or lose over the contract. For this same reason he could not form any estimate as to how much it had cost to repair the damages caused by the typhoon. He had not paid all the sub-contractors, but could not say how much he still owed them. Tam A Ling knew about the accounts; witness did not.

By Mr. Wilkinson—Witness was present on the occasion of the walls collapsing, and had been round the unoccupied houses closing all the doors. He saw one open window on the second floor of house No. 30 soon after the collapse.

By a juror—Witness was the accountant of the firm, but he had not yet made up the accounts in respect of the houses in Kowloon City Road. As they had not been made up, he was unable to say whether there would be a profit or a loss over the contract.

Chiu Po, bricklayer, 21, Wellington Street, testified as to a sub-contract taken by him from Loong Cheong to build fifty houses in Kowloon City Road; that sub-contract was for all bricklaying work—laying bricks, plastering, and tile-laying. For this he was to be paid \$50,700, and of that amount about \$500 was still owing to him. The Loong Cheong firm was to supply all the materials. Witness knew nothing about the prices of the materials, either bricks or mortar. The last witness told him what to do, and he simply carried out his orders. Witness went and looked at Nos. 30 and 32 the day after the collapse, and a few days after he examined the fallen bricks and found them to be hard and in good condition; they could not be bent in the hand like soft clay. He could not give any reason for the collapse.

By a juror—The mortar used in building the houses was also good.

The hearing of evidence was resumed after tiffin.

Harry Andersen said he was a Norwegian and that he had been a sailor most of his life. For the last three years he had been with Messrs. Leigh & Orange as an overseer. He was employed about May last year as overseer in respect of 50 houses being built in Kowloon City Road for the Land Investment Co. These houses were on Lots 1,107, 1,108 and 1,118.

From May till November he got \$60 a month wages and \$5 a month allowance for launch hire. He commenced work on these houses about May, and from May till September these were the only houses he had to look after. In September he had 20 more to look after; these belonged to Messrs. Leigh & Orange. Then afterwards he had 48 houses more belonging to the Land Investment Co. to look after: that was a little before Christmas. After November his pay was \$15 more—that was \$75. He got \$75 a month up till last month; just now he was getting \$60. The roofs and walls of the 15 houses on lot 1,107 were finished in January or the beginning of February; all the work on that block was finished in the beginning of March. The roofs and walls of the block on lot 1,108 were finished about March; the whole of the work was completed in the latter part of May. The houses on Lot 1,118 were finished a little before the houses on Lot 1,108. As overseer he was on the works every day from 8 a.m. till 5.30 p.m. while he was living in Hongkong. He moved over to the other side in November last year, and then he attended at the works from 7.30 a.m. till 5.30 p.m., going home for meals. When he said he was on the works he meant by "the works" these 50, 20 and 48 houses. The north wall of the block on Lot 1,108 showed a small crack at end of May or the beginning of June. He pointed it out to Mr. Leigh, and the wall was taken down to the foundations and rebuilt; the rebuilding was finished some time in June, but witness could not remember the exact date. On 18th July last Nos. 30 and 32 fell down, and the southern wall of the block on Lot 1,107 was cracked after the typhoon of 23d August; that also was taken down. At the same time two cook-houses on Lot 1,103 fell down, and one crack appeared in the northern wall of that lot. No more cracks had appeared in this wall since 2nd August; witness last saw it yesterday (Monday). After looking at the exhibit shown him, he thought there might be some small cracks, but there was no crack leading from about the level of the second floor down to the ground. Witness did not think that the western wall of the block on Lot 1,108 had any tendency outwards, and so far as he knew no cracks had appeared in the party walls of that block of houses; he believed that two tie-rods had been put in between Nos. 36 and 38 on block 1,108, but by whose orders he did not know. With reference to block 1,107, the western wall there had no tendency outwards, and no cracks had appeared in the party walls. He could give the Court no reason for these two houses, Nos. 30 and 32, falling down, nor could he explain the cracks in the walls and the collapses of the two kitchens. At three o'clock on 18th July witness went over all the works, and none of the plaster on the two blocks was off at that time, and as far as he could see it was not blistered or bulged. At about ten or eleven o'clock on the morning following the collapse he examined some of the fallen bricks, and found them wet owing to the heavy rain, but fairly good. The bricks on the top of the heap were softened by the heavy rain which fell after the accident. Regarding the materials, it was witness's opinion that they were good and in accordance with the specifications. While the fifty houses were being built, Mr. Crisp, the inspector of buildings, sometimes visited them. He may have been there without being seen by witness, who saw him about once a month. He made no complaint to witness as to the quality of the materials used. The architect came about twice a week, and he would sometimes say that good bricks and mortar were to be used, but he had no complaint in respect of the quality of the material. Ng Leung, the English-speaking foreman, was there every day. Witness did not think there was any sinking of the foundations either on Lot 1,107 or Lot 1,108. The water for building purposes was obtained from three wells dug in the vicinity, which were filled up when the work was finished.

By Mr. Wilkinson—It was witness's duty to see that the work was done in accordance with the specifications, and he was satisfied that it was.

By a juror—Witness supervised the mixing of the mortar and the laying of the bricks.

P. T. Crisp, inspector of buildings, said he knew the blocks of houses erected on Lots 1,107, 1,108, and 1,118. The list produced showed the

visits he had made to the houses, and was compiled from his diary. The first inspection was made on 3rd June last year, and the last on 12th March, 1902. Between those dates he had visited the houses 24 times; they were near his residence, and he could visit them frequently. On 18th March he made a thorough inspection of the whole work, and was thoroughly satisfied with it; he had four holes cut in the walls, and produced samples of the bricks, mortar, and plaster used which he picked up on the morning after the collapse. The two bricks in Court were picked up haphazard, and he considered them to be fair specimens of the bricks used. The samples were as hard when they were picked up as they were now, but they had at that time been rendered soft to a certain extent by the heavy rain. Water had the effect of softening bricks—but here, at any rate, though not in England. Witness did not see any bricks that were as soft as the original clay. The piece of plaster produced was also a fair sample of the material used but heavy rain falls such as occurred here would in time penetrate the coating of plaster and enter the brick-wall.

By Mr. Looker—One of the four holes was cut in the collapsed wall at No. 30. The cutting of such holes was to make sure that the walls were properly built.

Witness—When I say properly built, I mean, of course, as walls go here.

By a juror—The holes cut in the walls were ten inches square.

The enquiry was then adjourned.

The enquiry was resumed on Thursday afternoon before Mr. F. A. Hazeland.

H. E. Y. Haggard, assistant engineer, P.W.D. (recalled), said that on 11th March there was an application handed to him under Section 53 of the Building Ordinance, by Messrs. Leigh & Orange, for a certificate for houses on Lot 1,107. It was minuted to him by Mr. Tooker, and passed on to Mr. Crisp for inspection. The words "Certainly be granted" were placed on the application by Mr. Crisp, and accordingly the certificate was granted. Up till that time witness had not made any inspection of the houses on this lot. On 19th July he heard that Nos. 30 and 32, Kowloon City Road had collapsed; in consequence of this he went over and inspected the premises. He arrived about 10.30 a.m. There were several people present when he arrived. Mr. Crisp was there and the police were in charge. The walls of the two houses abutting on the lane which runs between them had fallen down and the floors and roofs had given way. Looking at the two houses on the morning after the collapse, witness came to the conclusion that the side wall of No. 32 had fallen first. At that time he examined the fallen bricks and found them to be hard; he did not observe any soft bricks amongst them. His inspection was made separately from that of Mr. Crisp, and the two bricks taken away by the latter from the debris were a fair specimen of the bricks used in the construction of the houses. Witness examined the remaining brickwork of both houses, and it appeared to be hard and not unduly wet. He was of opinion that the wall of No. 32, which fell again, and brought down the wall of No. 30, collapsed owing to the typhoon. He was also of opinion that the houses were built more strongly than most Chinese houses.

But none of these other Chinese houses came down. How do you explain that?—There might have been some other cause at work here.

What other cause? Just tell us what you saw.—Well, the remaining portion of the wall of No. 30 was out of plumb by 14 inches.

What do you think caused it to be out of plumb?—It had probably been built that way.

Was the remaining portion of the wall of No. 32 out of plumb?—No.

Was there any sinking of the foundations that you saw?—I did not examine the foundations; the debris was in the way.

Continuing, witness said that when he examined the northern wall on Lot 1,108 he found it to be badly bonded and hollow in parts. He wanted the whole wall to be pulled down and reported to that effect to Mr. Tooker; he was of opinion that the foundations had sunk. Excepting a portion at the back, the kitchen portion, the wall was subsequently pulled down, but after it had been rebuilt a part of it

appeared to be out of plumb, through its being bonded to meet the portion that had not been taken down. Witness had not examined the wall since 19th July, and could not therefore say whether any fresh cracks had appeared; as a matter of fact, he had not seen any of the houses since 19th July.

By Mr. Looker—The bricks of the collapsed wall at No. 30 fell principally into the house (No. 30) itself, and those of No. 32 into the lane. As far as witness could see—he was unable to get inside—there appeared to be comparatively few bricks in No. 32. There was no particular way of distinguishing between the bricks used in the two houses. The remaining portion of the wall of No. 30 showed many signs of having been hit with bricks, but No. 32 not to the same extent. Witness's theory was that No. 32 fell first; the remaining portion of the wall of this house was in plumb. Softening of the mortar—the theory advanced by Mr. Leigh—would result in the wall being out of plumb outwards. The wall of No. 30 was probably out of plumb when the certificate from the P.W.D. was issued on 19th March, four months before the collapse. The wall was an inch and a quarter out of plumb in seven feet. The fault should have been noticeable to a trained eye.

Now, Mr. Crisp's is a trained eye?—I suppose so.

And Mr. Leigh's?—Yes.

And they both inspected the wall?—Yes.

And don't you think it probable that if the wall had been 14 inches out of plumb in seven feet, they would have noticed it?—Yes.

In answer to another question by Mr. Looker, witness said that he believed the northern wall on Lot 1,108, which showed signs of cracking, was pulled down on the initiative of the architects.

By Mr. Wilkinson—Mr. Crisp had no right to pass a wall which was out of plumb, and, having passed it, it was either a case of Mr. Crisp neglecting his duty or of the wall being in plumb.

And don't you think it is more reasonable to suppose that the wall became out of plumb subsequent to Mr. Crisp's inspection?—Yes.

By Mr. Dennys—Witness should say that the wall began to go out of plumb from the ground level. If the softening of the bricks and mortar caused the wall to go out of plumb, that softening must have taken place at the level of the ground. The wall was out of plumb when witness saw it on 19th July; Mr. Crisp had already noticed it. The reconstructed wall was out of plumb, but it had not been pulled down as a consequence. Iron tie-rods in the wall had not prevented its going out of plumb outwards.

By Mr. Looker—It was a fact that one of the tie-rods had been pulled clean through the wall; that tie-rod had probably been inserted when the wall was out of plumb. Witness did not know whether the northern wall on Lot 1,103 was now out of plumb; it was out of plumb on 19th July. He would be surprised to hear that the wall, which, so far as he knew, had not since been rebuilt, was plumbed two days ago and found to be all right.

By Mr. Dennys—The gable walls of the two houses, Nos. 30 and 32, were 50 feet high and 6 feet long. A wind from W.N.W. would blow over No. 32 and catch No. 30 at the top only.

By Mr. Wilkinson—The ground floor of No. 30 would not get so wet from the rain as the top floor.

By a juror—It was not witness's personal duty to examine the houses before the certificate had been granted by the P.W.D. The plaster on the wall, though half-an-inch in thickness, would not prevent the rain from penetrating to the outside face of the brickwork; it would not, however, go right through.

Mr. Wilkinson—You have known of cases in this Colony where the rain has penetrated the walls of houses and wetted the inner plaster?

Witness—Yes.

Mr. Dennys—But none of them came down in the typhoon?

Witness—No, so far I know.

The enquiry was adjourned.

The *Universal Gazette* is informed that China is resolved to request the countries concerned to withdraw their garrisons from Shanghai and that no country will again station soldiers at that port.

THE "TACOMA'S" VOYAGE.

TERRIBLE WEATHER.

The appearance presented by the Northern Pacific steamer *Tacoma* as she steered for her buoy in the harbour on arriving on Thursday morning, from Victoria, British Columbia, bore striking testimony to the tempestuous weather encountered during the voyage. *Tacoma* was left behind on 4th October and Victoria on the 5th, the weather for the first few days of the trip being splendid. On the 11th it became very unfavourable, and although on the day following the gale that had sprung up moderated appreciably, the 13th was a dirty, disagreeable day. The *Tacoma* was shipping seas continually, and about 2 a.m. she pooped a heavy one, the port door of the after wheel house being washed away. A few minutes later she shipped a tremendous sea abait the smoke stack on the port side. This unshipped and smashed the two after life-boats, completely up-ending the large iron life-boat and laying it upside down across the galley skylight, the after life-boat being lifted from the chocks and thrown against the engine-room skylight. These boats were subsequently thrown overboard, being dangerous to the other deck fittings. This sea washed away the saloon skylight, flooding the saloon and all the state-rooms. The ship was now in great danger. An officer, a quartermaster, and four sailors were aft at the wheel, and it took their united efforts to steady it, the wheel-house also being continually flooded. The captain and second officer were on the bridge signalling the wheel-house by whistle, the after telegraph being disabled.

The weather continued to get worse, the barometer reaching its lowest reading between four and five o'clock. About 5 a.m., another big sea almost engulfed the steamer, carrying away the port quarter boat, and driving it bodily through the captain's room. The davits were snapped off like pipe-stems, the taff-rail disappeared, the deckhouse was wrecked, and a window in the wheel-house stove in. The bulkhead between the captain's room and the social hall was washed overboard, and all the woodwork smashed into matchwood. Pouring down the after companion way, the sea again flooded the saloon and ladies' after-cabin, the store rooms, and the linen locker. The captain, who remained on the bridge throughout the gale, and was ably assisted by his officers, engineers, and men, says he never encountered such terrible weather in the Pacific. After shipping the second heavy sea, the ship behaved splendidly, and rode out the gale, which by night had completely abated. A quartermaster and two sailors were amaged by the wheel.

THE S.S. "SHAWMUT."

The big new cargo steamer *Shawmut* is at present lying in the Harbour loading her first cargo in the East. She belongs to the fleet of the combined Northern Pacific S.S., Boston S.S. and Boston Tow-boat Co.'s. The *Shawmut* is one of the leviathans of modern cargo-boat type, being the largest vessel put out by the Sparrow's Point Shipbuilding Co. of Baltimore, Maryland. As the visitor approaches the steamer where she lies out in the Harbour, her great size and capacity begin to be more apparent; his launch dwindles to a cockleshell, while the big steamer grows in perspective and her straight sides look like the elevation of a three-story house. When one gets on board, the sense of magnitude is accentuated. What strikes one most perhaps is the forest of derricks which meets the view. There are 14 hatches and as each hatch has 4 derricks to its own che-k, the simple matter of a multiplication sum will enable the reader to arrive at some idea of the appearance she presents when loading or discharging cargo. To work these there are 13 cargo engines. The *Shawmut* has of course been fitted with every convenience for the rapid handling of freight. Her tonnage gross is 9,606 tons, and she can be loaded or unloaded in 48 hours.

The *Shawmut's* dimensions are 505 feet in length over all, 58 feet beam inside, and 42 feet depth; dead weight 12,000 tons, measurement 18,000. With two triple expansion engines and twin screws the vessel has a speed of 15 knots. She was originally laid out as a

passenger ship but afterwards suited to the requirements of the carrying trade; one result of the change is that the *Shawmut* is very much superior in general get-up and fitting as compared with vessels engaged in the same trade. Every convenience is supplied for the officers and crew. There is also good accommodation made on what would have been the saloon deck for the accommodation of Chinese passengers to the number of 400 or 500. When she leaves on Saturday, the *Shawmut* will carry quite a number of these emigrants. On her first run across the Pacific from Tacoma she brought general cargo and lumber. She is presently loading general cargo for Tacoma, etc., and will call at Shanghai and Japan.

Captain W. M. Smith is in command, and the officers are: first, Mr. Humphrey Jones; second, Mr. H. Armstrong; third, Mr. W. Sims; fourth, Mr. Anderson. The chief engineer is Mr. W. Alexander. In all, the crew numbers about 90.

It may be interesting to state that the somewhat outlandish name *Shawmut* is an American Indian designation.

JAPANESE COMMERCIAL HONOUR.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Tokyo, 8th October.

One may hear all over the East depreciation of the commercial honour of the Japanese. Nor does enquiry in the immediate field tend to help native reputation in this respect. An estimate so general must of course have substance behind it, although trade returns, which show rapid expansion, in which native agencies are the most active and numerically the strongest, tell a story which materially modifies any sweeping denunciation. It is a common saying that a Japanese cares as little for his bond as for his word; but it may be observed that whatever measure of justice upholds this view, it receives utterance by foreigners who have been in Japan for some years and have fared well enough to put out lines for long account, as they continue to do. Removal of a foreign house to China, where the nod of the merchant is declared to bind like a hard and fast contract, is never reported on the ground of bad treatment here. The usual business changes occur, and some of them have involved surrender of offices in Japan and a transfer of manager or staff to a Chinese port, but it was not because of inability to combat loose business conditions. Like influences might lead anywhere to similar changes. The inference thus seems permissible that foreigners may contrive generally, as they have already done, to protect themselves: just as natives put up guards against each other; just as prudence and circumspection shield business dealings in other lands; and that in spite of a tone in commercial ethics below par, business is not only possible here, but it is conducted with average safety on a growing scale with all parts of the world.

If laxity among the Japanese may not be justified there is at least some explanation of it. The mercantile class always had inferior rank. Incentive for its improvement in the early part of the Tokugawa Shogunate, 300 years ago, was not long enough held out to have appreciable effect; for when the disposition then to encourage foreign trade was reversed, the Shogun being convinced that the foreigners wished to proselytise rather than to trade, and that wholesale conversion was designed as a step toward destroying the political entity of the empire, the trading element dropped back to the despised level that it had formerly occupied, and from which it had not recovered at the beginning of the present regime. A recognised division of the people at the time that Settlements were first set aside wherein foreign merchants might freely do business was into four classes. The military and official gentry had first place, next came the farmers, next the artisans and labouring people, and last the traders. A tribe of outcasts known as *eta* and a disgusting element called *hinin*, who lived by begging, and upon whom devolved the execution of criminals and disposal of their bodies, were alone degraded further

than the merchant, and they were considered below the level of humanity. A merchant would never dare oppose one of the military or official class, and he ran grave risks even in remonstrance, for he could get no redress in official quarters, and if he did other than submit to what might befall him he made himself liable not only to the extortion of money, or other tyranny but also the loss of his head, under the ever ready sword of his offended lordling.

ESTIMATE OF NATIVE CHARACTER.

Following the drift of human weakness, whereby men commonly become what the world holds them to be, the spirit of trading became actuated only by paltry aims, and morality passed out of the reckoning. There had always been minds endowed for large enterprises, but they had been mainly utilised to finance public undertakings, and they seemed unwilling, even when opportunity prompted, to risk the chances of foreign connections. Since sharp practice by certain foreigners accounted in part for the unwillingness of reputable native houses to enter into the new relations, the field remained for tradesmen of the common class, typified by Prof. Chamberlain, in *Things Japanese*, in these words:—

"Peculiarly vague are his ideas of such matters as punctuality, regard for truth, the keeping of a promise. He is a bad loser, even of the smallest sum, and will not consider it derogatory to get out of a contract, should the market go against him, while his deep-seated distrust even of his own compatriots results in plots and counter-plots, real or suspected, between the promoters of almost every important enterprise. So far from practicing honesty for its own sake, he has not yet learned that honesty is, even from a selfish point of view, the best policy. His timidity is another weak point, leading him to seek the aid of government in nearly every large undertaking, aid which has not always been judiciously applied; and his professed eagerness for the introduction of foreign capital seems to be perverted in practice into opposition and obstruction."

These words are intended to have present applicability, as well as to fit earlier years. They are reinforced by an example, in which a Mr. Kimura refused to take delivery of 100 bales of yarn for which he had contracted with a foreign firm in Yokohama. Finding appeal fruitless to the Yarn Makers' Guild, the foreign firm sued and obtained judgment in accordance with the contract, the court ordering Mr. Kimura to pay, in addition to the stipulated price, insurance, interest, and godown rent, minus 90 days usually allowed pending delivery. At a meeting of the Yokohama Guild shortly thereafter, the action of Mr. Kimura was fully endorsed, and the foreign firm was condemned to a boycott, in which dealers in Tokyo, Nagoya, and other important towns were to be asked to join. Representatives of the Tokyo Guild next visited the foreign firm to say that they were determined to settle the dispute, and unless their arbitration were accepted, they would join the boycott. Advised by a Japanese lawyer that the law could afford them no protection against boycott, or redress any wrong they might thereby suffer, the foreigners were compelled to accept the offer of arbitration, and were thereupon informed that Mr. Kimura would take delivery within 60 days, the foreign firm to pay its own legal expenses. Delivery was accepted at a price which left the foreign firm a loser by about 2,500 yen (£250), half of that sum consisting of insurance, interest, and warehouse charges. Prof. Chamberlain emphasises the case because Mr. Kimura had been Manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank, and was at the time a Director, besides being on the Municipal Board, President of the Yokohama Guild, and one of the wealthiest men in the city. "Where great houses fall victims", the writer concludes, "it is easy to conceive that the smaller fry have but faint chance of redress. And there is no sign of a change. Breach of contract is as rife in this year of grace, 1901, as at any previous period. As we pen these lines, the godowns at Yokohama are crammed with goods of which the Japanese who ordered them refuse to take delivery."

JAPANESE POINT OF VIEW.

However indefensible the attitude of Mr. Kimura, his refusal being based on the colour of a tag, which was red when he said it should have been purple, the practical effect of the

refusal was that the foreign firm lost £250, its only reported loss in a year when Japan was threatened with commercial panic. There had been a long speculative period, a boom in all kinds of enterprise, and reaction had come. Things that occur elsewhere at such a time occurred throughout industrial Japan, except that instead of accepting delivery of goods and then failing in business, merchants who found their resources cramped sought escape from their contracts on technicalities, objections, or by blunt refusal to accept delivery. The Yokohama godowns did become glutted, but foreigners had not parted with their property, and thus were not driven to the courts in a long chase to recover it. They knew the commercial conditions that depressed business as well as did the native merchants, and could have no doubt that with the passing of the stringency the market would demand the goods, whether delivery were taken by those who had ordered them or by others. So at the worst there could be no such loss as might have been involved had deliveries been taken, and panic fallen upon an overstocked native supply. The foreign firm which had trouble with Mr. Kimura has long been in business at Yokohama. In its operations for many years, this was the first public announcement that it had been forced to write against its profit and loss account a large sum as £250; and in all that time the portion of its profits withdrawn for personal account had been sufficient to support very comfortably, if not expensively, living.

At a meeting of native merchants held when panic threatened, to discuss means of averting the danger, a leading merchant, speaking of accumulations of goods and of refusals to take delivery, is reported to have said:—"What if the godowns are glutted? Let the stuff decay; then the situation may be saved. Japanese are too sensitive on the subject of commercial morality. Foreigners say that they must sell out at enormous losses, and that Japanese contractors go scot free. That is not so, for the foreigners have the goods, and Japanese must finally take them out, then paying interest on their value, storage, and insurance. Foreign loss is mainly in the payment of interest on their drafts, on the loss of interest on their credit balances. That is a misfortune, but foreign banks are easy, and Japanese banks are hard. They have been recklessly trading, and we have overworked our capital. Even if all our claims for shortage, difference of pattern or of texture should be disallowed, the financial situation should be considered. The foreign banks know their customers and will be patient with them, and Japanese banks must exhibit a proper regard for their own interests by a conservative attitude." Here was a plea for the repudiation of contract, as the lesser of two evils, a counsel which the speaker now doubtless feels was fully warranted by the course of events, for fears soon became pacified, and within a few months native merchants took out the godown stocks, at little reported loss to foreigners except that of delay. In the other event there might have been deliveries and many settlements at such percentage of invoice prices as could have been obtained at forced sales when no one wished to buy.

BANK BENDS TO LAW.

A case that has been used by foreigners as a text for discourse on native tendencies arose from a loan of ¥10,000 yen by the Russo-Chinese Bank to the Toyokawa Railway Co. One of the native banks at Kyoto guaranteed payment, or at any rate the Manager of the native bank signed a guarantee on behalf of the bank, which the lender accepted as full security. When demand was made on the bank for the money, the railway company having failed to meet the note at maturity, the bank refused to stand by the endorsement on the ground that the Manager had no right to use the seal of the bank for an endorsement, without express authority from the Directors, such authority not having been conferred in this instance. The bank held that its Manager had never enjoyed more than limited powers, and based its defence on the proposition that without the permission of the principal a procurator cannot rightfully undertake commercial transactions on his own account, or on that of a third person, and if a procurator does so undertake, the principal is absolved from liability, and may repudiate the contract within two weeks after receiving

notice of it. The Manager had no authority to close a transaction for the bank except in the purchase and sale of commercial bills. Justification for the refusal was also urged on the ground that other creditors of the railway had agreed to accept in settlement of their claims 80,000 yen for 1,000,000 yen of debts, and if this note were paid in full that settlement plan would be upset and the railroad forced into bankruptcy.

The Court in rendering judgment recited from the Civil Code a provision that an expression of intention made by a representative within the scope of his authority and purporting to be made on behalf of a principal takes effect directly for and against the latter. Commenting on the contention of the bank that this payment would constitute an undesirable precedent, the Court declared that it would be more undesirable for the bank to refuse to take responsibility for acts done in its name and contracts stamped with its seal. As to a condition in which a lender might never be sure but that some technicality might be raised to evade a contract, the fact of such technicality being of more importance than the execution of the contracts, there could not be two opinions on the score of moral validity. If the bank employed men who exceeded their powers it was nevertheless responsible, or business would be impossible. Judgment was given for the payment of the note in full, with interest and costs. Settlement occurred on that basis.

In addition to the original foreign criticism of the bank for its refusal to pay the note on demand, much adverse comment was provoked over the devices which the bank employed to drag the suit through the courts. Several months elapsed between the beginning of the suit and the judgment, due mainly to requests for time by counsel for the native bank, which the Court granted. This case seems to have been a contributing cause to the publication of a pamphlet entitled, *The Delays in the Law Courts*, printed in Yokohama, and given wide circulation through the Foreign Chamber of Commerce of that place, wherein are cited six commercial cases, seemingly easy of settlement, which have hung fire in the courts for from one to eighteen months.

FOREIGNERS FAVOURED IN COURT.

The document certainly proves that there are deplorable delays of the law in Japan. It declares that the difficulty in obtaining the legal enforcement of good faith is one of the principal causes of the high interest rates for money, and conveys the further doubtful impression that a state of affairs has been brought about peculiar to this land, where by many traders have come to the conclusion that it is less troublesome and costly to forego a claim than to bring it before the courts. "So far as our observation goes," the compiler says, "this is not a matter in which foreigners specially or particularly labour under disadvantage; in fact, we are convinced that the law is made to move more quickly when the foreigner is concerned, but the interests of each are the interests of all and the fact that our Japanese friends suffer more than we do is only a greater reason why this subject should be brought to the bar of public opinion."

In this presentation, and in comments by native and other newspapers, presumably reflecting intelligent opinion, there has appeared no suggestion that the issues in the courts do not finally come out right, although the compensation for judicial service in Japan is so small as to graduate occupants of the bench into the bar with annoying rapidity, and it might well tempt the weak to sell their decisions. In a list of commercial cases compiled by one newspaper, to show the time taken for the settlement of suits relating to bills in the first half of this year, it appears that out of 434 suits 150 were settled within a month and 311 within two months. Fourteen had been pending for one year, 16 for two years, and 2 for more than two years.

In other years payment on account accompanied an order, no contract being signed without it. The Germans made their first effective inroads on foreign trade by abolishing the bargain money condition. They were thereby in the way of absorbing so much of the business that other foreign houses yielded that point,

and since then contracts have been secured only by the means usual in lands where good faith is a drawing commercial card. It does not appear that the Germans have lost by their course, or that because of that concession others have suffered, so that under one practice or the other Japanese morality has remained unaffected. Nor is there evidence that that change of reference of commercial actions from the consular courts, to which formerly foreigners had recourse, to the native courts, has worked essential injustice in any quarter, inadequately equipped as are the native courts with men and comparatively new as is the procedure under which the courts are operated. Their codes were transplanted from Europe, and they are as different as possible from any notions of law to which tradition or the training of persons yet active furnished any preparation. A little greater expedition in the settlement of commercial cases may have occurred when every foreigner had his own government directly behind him on this soil than when all residents were placed for ordinary purposes on the same legal footing. While no one will pretend that the native courts are as efficient as it is hoped they may become, it may well be that an analysis of present complaints of the difficulties and delays in holding native merchants to a standard which absence lends foreigners to think prevails at home, may be traced to unwelcome novelties in the foreign status, rather than to special aggravations now devised by natives or to a disposition in the law of the courts to be either unfair or annoying. No worse instances have been reported of native looseness in contracts and of the trouble in obtaining redress for wrongs, than those cited in this letter. Possibly as agents shall come out for foreign houses, to replace those who cannot divorce their memories or their prejudices from the days of consular authority, business conditions may not seem so inferior to those in other lands at they have seemed since the revised treaties became operative, in 1899.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 1st November.

PRAYING FOR RAIN.

Of late the weather has been very dry, and everybody here has been anxious for rain; yet in spite of the prayer of the Namhoi and Punyn Magistrates, the Provincial Judge, and even the Viceroy, who appealed most earnestly to heaven and earth, and invoked the spirits of mountains and sea to bless the population with rain, none has come. Lately from three to four hundred women from different families swore that they would by their appeal move the heart of the gods. So after three days of fasting and ablutions they went together on the 29th of last month in a big crowd to the temple of the Dragon King to pray him to intercede with Fung Lung (the ruler of the rains) on their behalf. On the 29th and 30th rain came pretty thickly in Canton.

ANOTHER METHOD.

The Magistrate Fung of the district of Hing Ning, Kwangtung, after he had prohibited the slaughtering of swine for three days, and had prayed to the god of the cities and towns for rain without any effect, resolved to kill the Demon of Drought in the following manner. He had an effigy made of paper and bamboo to represent this Demon, and having closed the Southern gate of the city, ordered the police to go to the Temple of Horror to arrest and bring the paper effigy with chains round its neck into Court, and made it kneel down before him. He was dressed in his official robe, and sitting in Court, with his hand he banged on the table, while in a loud voice he scolded the paper effigy for continually committing the crime of bringing drought into the city. Then he ordered him to be taken out and beheaded. But a party of gentry of the place, as already pre-arranged, came forward to beg favour of the Magistrate to let them stand security for the Demon and allow the latter three days' grace, and if after three days he did not bring rain, then let his head be cut off. The Magistrate nodding his assent, the effigy was taken out of Court, and placed on the top of the city gate. Not quite three days after, on the 29th ult., there were thunder and rain.

PEKING.

Peking, 20th October.

SIR E. SATOW AND THE DIPLOMATIC
RECEPTION.

The Diplomatic body and the Commanders of the Legation guards peregrinated to the Elysian precincts of the Summer Palace on Saturday. As is well known, the Court has been sojourning there for more than a month, entertaining itself with theatricals and with receptions to the representatives of the Legations and other friends, including occasional missionaries. A spectator posted on the highway that connects the City of Peking with the Summer Palace would have seen a curious sight on the morning of 18th inst., that would have supplied him with entertainment for two hours. And had he taken the time to spend another hour or more at the same spot in the late afternoon he would have enjoyed it even more. All the styles of vehicles known were requisitioned for the occasion. The Ministers took chairs. The secretaries took chairs or carriages, besides, cars, traps, hacks, and dhroskas. According to programme the satellites went first and were followed by the ministers, who arrived about a quarter past ten, when all entered the front gate and after brushing the dust off their boots went into the throne room, where they were received in audience, according to custom. A breakfast, or tiffin, followed. It would not be right to commit oneself at this point on the question of precisely what the meal was, because there is something said about it in the protocol, annex six. This annex says that the Emperor is to be present. Well, the Emperor was not present. Puzzle, what was the meal? We believe the Dowager said to the gentlemen very cordial words and hoped they would enjoy the repast. If there was anything at all lacking it was the absence of the Emperor. All seemed to agree to that. It was a perfect day, "Indian summer" we say in Wales, and the roads and walks had been tended and kept. New trees and shrubs had been planted, numerous bird-cages hung from the branches, and little cicadas and grasshoppers were the only joys that were confined. There are few pleasures in the style of a ramble in the vicinity of the capital more enticing than a *kuang-kuang* at the summer palace. Since it was by official notification closed to the ordinary visitor and globe-trotter last spring, only the few favoured by a diplomatic pass have been able to see it. Now it is a private park where the outsider is occasionally tolerated, but it may become entirely shut away from any but Legation members, and from them except on such an annual occasion as the one last Saturday. Aside from the British, the Legations were well represented. It came like thunderclap from a clear sky that

THE BRITISH MINISTER HAD RETURNED

THE EMPEROR'S INVITATION.

besides Prince Ching's invitation to a reception for his son, and the invitations of the Empress Dowager's daughter-in-law, Princess Yung Shou, to the Legation ladies to attend a tiffin at her palace on the 21st inst. The reason given was that the authorities had conspired to shield the real murderers of the Hunan missionaries, Mr. Bruce and Mr. Lewis, none other than the officials whom the throne had sent off to other places, while executing a dozen ignorant and fanatical people! This was a thing done by a minister that makes the heart glad. Ye who have cried out in despair, know ye that there is balm in Gilead. It is also a blessing to know that the host here in the Capital is with the Minister. This was the only thing perhaps that might mar the occasion for the Court. There is some speculation on point of whether the throne knew the reason for the absence of the British. The Minister took all precaution possible against misadventure in the communication of the facts to the throne, but in times past it was never certain that the truth got to the throne. Now the case is different, but not fixed. One thing is very certain. Prince Ching scared as he has not been since the signing of the protocol. He has not slept of nights, and it is hoped that sleep will never come to him until he gets those officials, when they will have all the sleep there is.

THE SHANGHAI QUESTION.

Another thing has occurred that ought to make the present head of the Waiwupu uneasy

in its nocturnal quietude. If so, one may fancy him, like Wolsey, saying to his faithful servant, "Ah, Cromwell, I charge thee fling away ambition." He has assented, so it is said, to conditions for the evacuation of Shanghai set down by the German government, without consulting the other powers concerned, some of whom consider them foreign to the question. The British so consider them, as they affect the prestige of their country in the Yangtze Valley.—*Mercury*.

YINGKOU (NEWCHWANG).

The following notes are from the *Universal Gazette*:—

The Tartar General of Fengtien succeeded in retaining his present post through the influence of the Russians and is much liked by them as he bends to their will, but at the same time is treated with contempt for his weakness. When the General appears in the streets, the Russian patrols never salute him and when he calls at a Russian yamen, the inmates do not come out to meet him.

The three Eastern Provinces abound in rich mines, and the Russians have been hankering after them for a long time, therefore during the recent negotiation, they strongly demanded mining privileges, and it is to obtain these that the troops have not been withdrawn. It is improbable that China has given her consent, but the Russians are already prospecting and have begun to work three of the mines.

Since the return of the railway, English engineers have not been allowed to work on the line, so the three English engineers who came here before the transference had to return to Tientsin. It is true that the railway is run by Chinese, but there are still Russian officials at the two terminal stations who are jealously watching the English.

There are some British men-of-war at Vladivostok, Harbin, and other ports, watching the movements of the Russians, and in consequence the merchants feel more or less unsettled. In Manchuria, Russia on one side and England and Japan on the other are on anything but a friendly footing. At present a certain Japanese high official is travelling about the province and observing everything, but his movements are most secret.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from Tientsin papers down to the 25th ult.:—

Shen Tun-ho has returned from Kalgan, and it is possible that the Empress Dowager will put him in charge of the Tartar troops.

Capt. Young, D.A.Q.M.G., of the 4th Gurkhas, and Mrs. Ragsdale, junior, were married at Tientsin on the 20th.

No posthumous honours, says the *P. & T. Times*, have been awarded the late Viceroy Tao Mu, as he was on the Court's black books for urging the Court last year to discharge useless officials. This omission is really an honour to the late Viceroy.

Viceroy Yuan Shikai gave a great farewell banquet on the 21st ult. to all the notabilities of all nationalities in Tientsin.

Prince Su is contemplating a trip round the world.

Yung Lu's underlings took fees to the amount of Tls. 300,000 at the recent marriage of his daughter to the Emperor's brother.

The expense of the Court's residence at the Summer Palace is said to run into fabulous figures daily. From another source it is reported that in spite of persistent complaints of the condition of the Imperial exchequer, the Empress Dowager is still living in an extravagant manner at the Echo Park. The Park is furnished with every luxury and has an army of attendants. Her expenditure is said to be something like Tls. 10,000 per diem.

Although the railway is running, fifteen courier-stations, with a staff of 100 mounted couriers, have been established between Pao-tungfu and Tientsin.

The German officers at Tientsin were to hold a race meeting on their parade ground on the 26th ult.

The Royal Welsh Fusiliers left Tientsin on the 24th ult., being relieved by the Sherwood Foresters [the same that recently passed through Hongkong].

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

A SUGGESTION TO PONY-OWNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 1st November.

SIR,—It may not be out of place for an "old hand" to make a suggestion to local pony owners through the columns of your paper re the improvement of the local track. This track is either as hard as a macadamised road, or, as it was this morning, so slippery as to be positively dangerous. To endeavour to get a thoroughbred pony into racing condition on this track, as it now is, is attempting the impossible, as in nine cases out of ten when you put him into fast work he is liable when the course is in its dry state to get "shin-sore," "foot-sore," or "start a tendon," and when the course is wet, he will probably suffer from "strain" of the shoulder, back, loin, or thigh-muscles.

Now exactly the same ground conditions prevail in other parts of the world, I refer more particularly to parts of Australia and South Africa, countries where notwithstanding the excessive hardness of the ground a great deal of first-class racing takes place. In these countries horses are brought to the post fit by being prepared on *artificially constructed tracks*, and as "tan," which is the best material for this purpose, is in most districts as unprocureable as in Hongkong, its place is taken by a very good substitute, viz., sand, *ordinary river or seashore sand*. The mode of construction is quite simple, and comparatively inexpensive, it being merely necessary to lay the sand down evenly, about three inches in depth, and keep it damp. The only objection to training horses on sand tracks is that an animal doing all his work on it will in time lose "foot"—in other words you cannot get as much pace into any given horse on sand (or tan) as you can on turf, but this objection cannot hold good in Hongkong, where a good turf track is open a week for those who desire to do fast work on it. I would therefore suggest that the Hongkong Jockey Club gives the sand track a trial, when I am sure they will find it both cheap and satisfactory in every way.—Yours, &c.,

AN EX-TRAINER.

NEW CUSTOMS RATES AT FOOCHOW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Foochow, 25th October.

SIR,—On the 24th inst. the Commissioner of Customs issued the following: "Beginning on the 31st October, current Duties on Imports will be levied at the New Rates given in the Revised Import tariff for the Trade of China which has been drawn up in accordance with Article VI of the Peace Protocol of 7th September, 1901. Copies of this new import tariff may be bought at the Custom House, price one dollar each."

On looking the said Tariff, I regret to see that the *lekin* is not to be abolished, owing to the objection of some European Powers in agreeing to the 12½ per cent. import duty, which to my opinion is much to be regretted as finishing with the *lekin* will be a benefit both to trade and to the Chinese Government. The foreign Powers ought to take into consideration the heavy indemnity which the Chinese Government has been called upon to pay. The *lekin* duty as a well known fact is most detrimental to trade, as no one knows what the *lekin* will come to on such and such goods until their arrival at the port of destination. And I am sure that not one third of the *lekin* revenue ever reached the Imperial Treasury; it is simply a means for pettifoggers (merchants as they style themselves) to pass a lot of goods for the Chinese for the mere sake of 20 to 30 cents per bale commission under the system of transit pass.

As the 12½ per cent. on import duty cannot be arrived at to the mutual consent of some Powers, the Chinese Government should insist that the transit pass system be restricted to merchants' goods only, not to Pettyfoggers, unless they produce the invoice to the Consul proving that such and such goods are really their own importation.

The Consul can easily see from the ship's manifest, by whom such goods were shipped and to whom they are consigned at the port of destination before issuing such passes; by so doing a lot of underhand business will be stopped to the credit of their nationals before the eyes of the Chinese authorities.—Yours, etc.,
A MERCHANT.

A FOOLISH AMUSEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS,"
Hongkong, 4th November.

SIR,—For some time past some crack-brained individuals, living in the Hongkong Hotel, have been in the habit of amusing themselves by throwing copper coins from their verandah to the street below, which naturally attracted a big crowd of coolies and children. This foolish amusement sometimes lasted over an hour, during which that part of Des Voeux Road fronting the Hotel became almost impassable; certainly a lady coming up from Blake Pier could not pick her way into the Hotel. Strange to say, although this practice was indulged in a number of times, the police allowed it to go on unchecked.

Of late, however, the individuals referred to have taken it into their heads to indulge in this absurd amusement at nighttime, to the annoyance of the whole neighbourhood. Up to 11.30 last night, a most noisy crowd of coolies was congregated between Messrs. Jardine's offices and the Hotel, making night hideous by their hooting and shouting, while in the intervals of waiting for more coin the noise was simply awful. This sort of thing may seem funny to a few feather-pated youths, but it undoubtedly constitutes a public nuisance, which the police can, and ought to, put a stop to.—Yours, &c.,
HOTEL VI-TOR.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 3rd November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

A NEW TERRITORY CASE.

A case was called during the hearing of which the following facts were disclosed. The property at Un Lung of Tam Chan Fai was seized on a warrant, which was executed on 21st October and the goods sold. Subsequently the landlord came forward and applied for a distraint warrant for eight months' rent, \$80.

Mr. H. Hursthouse, solicitor (Messrs Denny & Bowley) appeared for the execution creditor and made application that the latter warrant be discharged on the ground that under Ordinance 14 of 1902, Section 17, that court had no jurisdiction with regard to rent for lands or buildings in the New Territory.

His Lordship said he would withdraw the distraint warrant, as it was undoubtedly irregular. He would advise the landlord to write a letter to the execution creditor stating that he was the landlord and to prove his case in the Land Court as soon as he could.

The Court adjourned.

Tuesday, 4th November.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS W. MEIGH GOODMAN
(CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

YUI CHEUNG FIRM AND OTHERS v. LI
LUT WAN.

This was a motion for leave to appeal against so much of an order of His Honour Mr. Justice Wise in Chambers made in certain Summary Court actions on 11th October on a summons taken out by the plaintiffs, to which the said Li Woon Chi was respondent, as directed that the balance of the funds in the hands of the manager appointed by the Court should be applied in payment of the plaintiffs' costs of action and in payment to the plaintiffs of their respective judgment debts *pro rata*, on the ground that, the said funds being the

balance of rents collected in advance by the manager, and the said Li Woon Chi having on the 1st of September, or in the alternative on the 10th of September, acquired the position of mortgagee in possession of the property out of which the rents came, such portion of the rents as accrued on and subsequent to these alternative dates should be appointed to Li Woon Chi and should be payable to him by the manager.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law, who appeared for the appellant (instructed by Mr. J. Hastings, of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors), said that this case arose out of a long series of actions in the Summary Court as a result of which certain landed property belonging to a man named Li Lut Wan was seized. A prohibitory order was obtained and a manager of this property was appointed to receive the rents and to pay them towards the claims of the judgment creditors. On 1st September the mortgagee to this same man—the appellant in the case—applied by summons to be allowed to take possession of the property which was then in the hands of the manager. The manager being in possession on behalf of the Court, the mortgagee could not obtain possession except by going into Court. His summons for that purpose was not heard at once. It was taken out for the 5th of September and postponed till the 10th of September, through no fault of the applicant at all; and on the 10th September an order was made letting him into possession and practically discharging the manager from the possession of the property. While the manager was still in possession, he of course had obtained the rents of the superior landlord. The rent paid for the property was payable at the end of each month; the rents coming in from the tenants were payable in advance—in the ordinary Chinese way. Now, the manager when he went out on the 10th September had collected practically the whole of the rents for the months of August and September without paying any rent to the superior landlord for these two months, so that the mortgagee who took possession had been compelled to pay the rent for the month of August, and, naturally, being in possession at the end of September, for that month as well. Before he collected a single cent of rents he had paid two months' rent to the superior landlord. The result of this was that he got absolutely nothing out of it.

The Puisse Judge asked why he did not go in before?

Mr. Slade replied that perhaps he had made a mistake, but he considered that he was going in sufficiently early to secure his money if he had received and paid the same number of rents. On the other hand the manager had received six months' rents and paid only five.

The Puisse Judge remarked that there was then only one month's rent wrong.

Mr. Slade said that was so, but the manager's one extra month put the mortgagee two months wrong. The motion asked that the rents obtained by the manager, \$1,600 for August, and during the month of September before the mortgagee came into possession, be repaid to the mortgagee.

The Chief Justice said he thought they could not go beyond the 5th of September in relation to the claim for that month. All they could say would be perhaps the 1st.

The Puisse Judge concurred.

The motion for leave to appeal was granted.
The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 5th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

SEIZURE OF CARGO-BOATS.

The facts in this case were that on 24th October Ho Kam Ki got judgment against To Chan Wa on a promissory note for \$530. After judgment he issued a writ of execution and seized two cargo-boats alleged to belong to defendant the To Chan Wa; now Ho In and Lo Un Chai claimed that they were the owners of those cargo-boats which were seized.

Mr. H. N. Ferrers, barrister-at-law, appeared for both claimants; and Mr. E. J. Grist of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors, appeared for the execution creditor.

After evidence had been heard.

His Lordship gave judgment for the execution creditor. He called the claimants forward and told them he believed they had not told the truth in their evidence; he had had it in mind to commit them to prison for perjury, and they might consider themselves fortunate in being allowed to get off clear.

The Court adjourned.

Thursday, 6th November.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE.
(PUISNE JUDGE).

HONGKONG STEAM-LAUNCH CO., LD.

In the matter of the Hongkong Steam-launch Co., Ltd., recently wound up voluntarily by an order of the Court.

Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker, solicitor), applied under the Companies Ordinances 1865 to 1899 for the appointment of a liquidator: an affidavit had been filed by Mr. Looker in support of the application. Mr. A. R. Lowe was nominated as liquidator.

His Lordship asked what the position of the Company was? Were there any assets and what were the securities?

Mr. Morgan Phillips said that three launches were now the property of the Company; Mr. Gordon was the sole owner.

His Lordship asked if the owner had agreed to this?

Mr. Morgan Phillips replied that he had; he was the Company.

In reply to his Lordship,

Mr. Morgan Phillips further stated that the assets of the Company amounted, roughly speaking, to \$10,000.

His Lordship fixed the liquidator's security at this amount.

The Court adjourned.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN
(CHIEF JUSTICE).

LAND COURT APPEAL.

This was a motion by Ng Yik Shan as trustee for the Ng family for leave to appeal against a decision of the Land Court, under the New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1902, with reference to the lease of a tract of land near Kowloon City.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., who (instructed by Mr. G. K. H. Brutton of Messrs. Mounsey & Brutton, solicitors) appeared for the appellant, said that his case was that the Wong family to whom the land in question had been awarded by the Land Court were tenants of the Ng family. It was admitted that the owners of this land were the Ng family for which the appellant was trustee, and the only point between the two families was that the Wongs claimed this land not as owners out-and-out but under a perpetual lease, which they produced before the Land Court, dated 1801, from the Ng family. It was common ground that the Ngs were the ultimate owners of the land; also that the Wongs had been tenants. The Wongs claimed a perpetual lease; the Ngs admitted that they were lessees, but only for 30 years, and held that that lease had expired in 1896. The appellant stated that the Wongs had substituted a forged perpetual lease for the genuine 30 years' lease which the Wongs suppressed. The Ng family had been endeavouring to get this expired lease from the Wongs for some years but had not succeeded in doing so.

His Lordship—What did the Land Court award?

Mr. Sharp—The Land Court awarded the land to the Wongs. He went on to say that the tract of land given to the Wongs was approximately 18 to 20 acres. The Ngs got about 3 acres. The appellant claimed that the lease was forged. His Lordship would see from the evidence and affidavits that the forger had—assuming the lease to be forged—followed the genuine lease, but in so doing his Lordship would no doubt be satisfied that he had committed himself. He had made the lessor and the lessee the same persons that

had signed the genuine lease, and they would be able to prove that these men were not living in 1801. The forger had furthermore made the bargain money the same, \$37. He seemed to have broadly copied the genuine lease, altering of course the essential feature of the period. The Ng family were the ultimate owners of this whole district; the only question was the period of the Wong's lease.

His Lordship—With reference to the signatures to this lease, do father and son not sometimes have the same names?

Mr. Sharp said that might be so, but the appellant had the family register to show that there was only one man of that name in each of the families in question. The authority of the Ng family's title-deed had been recognised, for eight out of twelve claims in this district had been allowed by the Land Court. These claims were all made under one title-deed.

His Lordship—What was the date of that deed?

Mr. Sharp said it was dated 1879 and was the copy of one of an earlier date which had become rotten with age.

His Lordship did not see why if there was such a lease, which expired in 1896, the Ngs did not go into possession at the end of the lease. Why were the Wongs allowed to retain possession until the land became very valuable by the taking over of the New Territories?

Mr. Sharp pointed out that the Wongs continued in possession and paid rent.

His Lordship—Your case is, that this deed is a forgery?

Mr. Sharp—Yes.

The motion papers having been amended,

His Lordship granted the application. He said he thought that the Land Court ought to be allowed to state a special case. With regard to the question of costs, this being the first case of the kind: there was a special tribunal appointed by the Government for the settlement of these claims, and parties did not need to pay anything to have that done; if they were not satisfied with the decision of that tribunal and came to the Supreme Court, the Court must make some proviso as to costs, otherwise the man who had plenty of money and made a lot of claims would come there and some poor man who could not afford to fight it out would have no chance at all. Therefore, he thought there should be a sum of money deposited for costs. Otherwise, for the man with money it would be "Heads I win, tails you lose."

Mr. Sharp said he thought that the respondents would be the Wongs only. The appellant's case was that they had perpetrated a fraud upon the Land Court, and in the circumstances he thought the appellant should not be compelled to find security.

His Lordship said that was a case of having had a grand law suit for nothing. A man who had nothing at all might come to the Supreme Court and appeal and make out a plausible case—his Lordship was not suggesting that it was so in this case—and then if he got judgment given against him, might go calmly away and say he had no money.

Mr. Sharp contended that to compel the appellant to lodge a deposit was improperly embarrassing him under the circumstances, if he was right in his statement that the Wongs had perpetrated a fraud upon the Land Court.

His Lordship—I may say I do not see where the appellant got his status as head of the family.

Mr. Sharp—He undoubtedly is the senior elder of the family.

His Lordship—He will probably put the price of this land into his own pocket, when he gets it.

Mr. Sharp—I believe he has no personal interest in the case, because the property belongs to the junior members of the family.

His Lordship—We have no warrant that he has money to pay the costs of this case.

Mr. Sharp—We have no warrant that the Wongs have.

His Lordship fixed the deposit at \$500, to be paid into Court.

Mr. Sharp remarked that it would be understood that they should be informed of the exact decision of the Land Court, the judgment not having been reported.

His Lordship, in ordering the report to be made, said the work of the Land Court must be extremely difficult. He understood that sometimes there were four

or five claimants for one single piece of land. It was a pity that some of the offenders could not be got hold of, because the forged deeds produced must be the work of thorough scoundrels, who did it on purpose. He supposed the truth was that the taking over of the New Territory had increased the value of the land and these men found it a big temptation to claim land as belonging to them which did not belong to them. The Court adjourned.

SHANGHAI RACES—AUTUMN MEETING.

FIRST DAY—4TH NOVEMBER

THE MALOO PLATE.—Half-a-mile. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Gore's *Manchu* ... 1
Mr. Bruce Robertson's *Disgrace* ... 2
Mr. Crawford's *Esperance* ... 3
Time 58 4/5.

THE CRITERION STAKES.—One mile. Value, Tls. 400. Second pony, Tls. 100. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. H. Bush's *Algerine* ... 1
Mr. Duplex's *The Dealer* ... 2
Mr. John Peel's *Set* ... 3
Time 2 5.

THE MAIDEN STAKES.—Three-quarters of a mile. Value, Tls. 400. Second pony, Tls. 100. Third pony Tls. 50. For China ponies that have never run at any Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance Tls. 5.

Mr. John Peel's *Chance* ... 1
Mr. Cleugh's *The Bodach* ... 2
Messrs. Robson & Common's *Dresden China* ... 3
Time 1 35 2/5.

THE CLUB CUP.—Two miles. Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins at date of entry allowed 7 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Carlill's *Loot* ... 1
Mr. Toey's *Canon* ... 2
Mr. Rodoet's *Chessy* ... 3
Time, 4 33 1/5.

THE LOTTERY STAKES.—One mile a half. For all China ponies. Value, Tls. 200, added to a sweepstakes of Tls. 15 each. Forfeit Tls. 5 if declared on or before the date of closing the entries for the Autumn Meeting, when the balance Tls. 10 is to be paid, and the name and colour of the pony declared. The stakes will be divided as follows:—First pony 70 per cent., second pony 20 per cent., and third pony 10 per cent. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of a race of one mile or over to carry 5 lbs. extra. Griffins which have arrived in Shanghai on or after 1st August, 1902, allowed 7 lbs. Non-winners and griffins purchased prior to above date, allowed 4 lbs. No ponies qualified to run unless entered at Autumn Meeting, in an official race. Nominations, which are transferable, close on 30th June. Nominations to be sent to the Secretary on or before the 30th June, together with an entrance fee of Tls. 5 for each nomination taken. Dates of arrival and/or purchase to be declared on entry forms at closing of the Autumn entries. Closed on 30th June, 27 nominations.

Mr. Ring's *Amphion* ... 1
Mr. Buxey's *Rare Rose* ... 2
Mr. G. H. Potts's *Pandur* ... 3
Time 3 21 3/5.

THE SHANGHAI GOLD CHALLENGE CUP.—One mile and a quarter. Presented. Value, 500 guineas. For China ponies, being *bona fide* griffins at date of entry. To be won twice in all by ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner or owners. Entrance, Tls. 10. 70 per cent. to the first pony, 20 per cent. to the second pony, and 10 per cent. to the third pony, until the cup is finally won, when the second pony will receive 75 per cent. and the third pony 25 per cent. of the entrance fees. Weight for inches as per scale.

Mr. Barley's *His Highness* ... 1
Messrs. Robson's & Common's *Valour* ... 2
Mr. John Gilpin's *Silver Blaze* ... 3
Time, 2 46.

THE AUTUMN CUP.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winner of the Criterion Stakes 5 lbs. extra. Jockeys that have never won an official race allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Bruce Robertson's *Grande* ... 1
Mr. Duplex's *The Dealer* ... 2
Mr. Crawford's *Esperance* ... 3
Time, 2 43.

THE FAH-WAH CUP.—One mile. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies that have never won a race. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins at date of entry allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Ring's *Arrièregarde* ... 1
Mr. Gauwal's *W. G.* ... 2
Mr. Fitz James's *Kingie* ... 3
Time, 2 8 2/5.

THE WHANGFOO STAKES.—One mile and a half. Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies, being *bona fide* griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of a race 5 lbs. extra. Jockeys that have never won an official race allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Donnachie's *Red Dawn* ... 1
Mr. Rob. Sievier's *Hermes* ... 2
Mr. H. Bush's *Bohre* ... 3
Time 3 25 3/5.

SECOND DAY—5TH NOVEMBER.

THE NORTHERN CUP.—Three-quarters of a mile. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Jockeys that have never won an official race allowed 5 lbs. Winners of a race at this Meeting 5 lbs. extra. Non-starters at this Meeting 7 lbs. extra. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Duplex's *The Dealer* ... 1
Mr. John Peel's *Set* ... 2
Mr. G. H. Potts's *Desert King* ... 3
Time, 1 30 2/5.

THE SHANGHAI ST. LEGER.—One mile and three-quarters. Value, Tls. 750. Second pony, Tls. 150. Third pony, Tls. 100. For China ponies that have never been raced previous to 1st January, 1902. Weight 10 st. 7 lbs. Ponies over 14 hands to carry 3 lbs. extra for every inch over. Winners of a race 5 lbs. extra; two or more races 10 lbs. extra. Entrance, Tls. 15.

Mr. Barley's *His Highness* ... 1
Mr. Barley's *His Excellency* ... 2
Mr. Fernando's *Loch Gail* ... 3
Times, 3 51 4/5.

THE CHINA CUP.—One mile. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies, being *bona fide* griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners, 5 lbs. extra. Jockeys that have never won an official race allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Cleugh's *The Bodach* ... 1
Mr. Ganwal's *W. G.* ... 2
Mr. H. Bush's *Oxide* ... 3
Time, 2 8 1/5.

THE PAGODA CUP.—One mile. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Ponies that have started at this Meeting and never won a race allowed 7 lbs. Winner of the Criterion Stakes 5 lbs. extra. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Bruce Robertson's *Grande* ... 1
Mr. Fitz-James's *Kenzie* ... 2
Mr. Hopeful's *Style* ... 3
Time, 2 8 2/5.

THE SHANGHAI STAKES.—One mile and a half. A forced entry of Tls. 5, with Tls. 100 added, for all ponies (otherwise entered at this Meeting. First pony to receive 70 per cent., second pony, 20 per cent., third pony 10 per cent. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins at date of entry allowed 7 lbs.

Mr. Ring's *Amphion* ... 1
Mr. Barley's *His Majesty* ... 2
Mr. Toey's *Canon* ... 3
Time, 3 17.

THE RACING STAKES.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 50. If

five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For China ponies that have never raced previous to 1st January, 1902. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners, 5 lbs. extra. Unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. H. Bush's <i>Algerine</i>	1
Messrs. Middy's and Vine's <i>Coronation</i>	2
Mr. King's <i>Arrêregarde</i>	3

Time, 2 44

THE LLAMA MIAU STAKES.—One mile and three-quarters. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For all China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Ponies that have started at this Meeting and not won a race allowed 7 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Buxey's <i>Rare Rose</i>	1
Mr. Carlill's <i>Loot</i>	2
Mr. G. H. Potts's <i>Pandur</i>	3

Time, 3 54 2/5

THE SYCEE STAKES.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For China ponies being *bona fide* griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of a race 7 lbs. extra. Jockeys that have never won an official race allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Ganwal's <i>W. G.</i>	1
Messrs. Robson's and Common's <i>Valour</i>	2
Mr. Donnachie's <i>Red Dawn</i>	3

Time, 2 45

THE SICCAWEI PLATE.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For all China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Unplaced ponies at this Meeting allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Duplex's <i>The Dealer</i>	1
Mr. Bruce Robertson's <i>Grandee</i>	2
Mr. Broughton's <i>Chisur</i>	3

Time, 2 42 1/3

THIRD DAY—6TH NOVEMBER.

THE FLYAWAY PLATE.—Seven furlongs. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For China ponies that have run at this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one race at this Meeting, 5 lbs. extra; two or more races, 7 lbs. extra. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. John Peel's <i>Set</i>	1
Mr. Fernando's <i>Loch Gail</i>	2
Mr. Broughton's <i>Chisur</i>	3

Time, 1 48. Previous best 1 48 1/5

THE RACE CLUB CHALLENGE CUP.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 50. For China ponies being *bona fide* griffins at date of entry. To be won at two consecutive Meetings or three times in all by ponies the *bona fide* property of the same owner or owners. Entrance, Tls. 10. 70 per cent. to the first pony, 20 per cent. to the second pony, and 10 per cent. to the third pony, until the cup is finally won, when the second pony will receive 75 per cent. and the third pony 25 per cent. of the entrance fees. Weight for inches as per scale.

Mr. Donnachie's <i>Red Dawn</i>	1
Mr. Cleagh's <i>The Bodach</i>	2
Mr. H. Bush's <i>Bohre</i>	3

Time, 2 44 3/5

THE COSMOPOLITAN CUP.—One mile and three-quarters. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For all China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this Meeting 5 lbs. extra. Unplaced ponies allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Fernando's <i>Discord</i>	1
Mr. Toeg's <i>Conon</i>	2
Mr. Buxey's <i>Rare Rose</i>	3

Time, 3 53 1/5

THE GRAND STAND STAKES.—Three-quarters of a mile. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For China ponies being *bona fide* griffins at date of entry. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of one race, 5 lbs. extra; two or more races, 7 lbs. extra. Jockeys that have never won an official race allowed 5 lbs. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Capt. Stamp's <i>Junius</i>	1
Mr. H. Bush's <i>Oxide</i>	2
Mr. St. Paul's <i>Vertumnus</i>	3

Time, 1 32 4/5

THE PARI-MUTUEL CUP.—One mile and a half. Value, Tls. 200. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Griffins at date of entry allowed 7 lbs. Non-starters and winners at this Meeting, 7 lbs. extra. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. G. H. Potts's <i>Pandur</i>	1
Mr. John Gilpin's <i>Silver Mint</i>	2
Mr. Barley's <i>Excelsior</i>	3

Time, 3 19 2/5

THE MANCHU STAKES.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For China ponies, *bona fide* griffins at date of entry, that have run and not won a race. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. John Gilpin's <i>Silver Blaze</i>	1
Mr. H. Bush's <i>Oxide</i>	2
Mr. George's <i>Proper Fashion</i>	3

Time, 2 45 1/5

THE CONSOLATION CUP.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 250. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony, Tls. 25. For China ponies that have run at this Meeting and not won a race. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Ring's <i>Comon</i>	1
Mr. Ralph's <i>Apollo</i> (late <i>F. K.</i>)	2
Mr. G. H. Potts's <i>Rebel King</i>	3

Time, 2 43 2/5

THE CHAMPION SWEEPSTAKES.—One mile and a quarter. Value, Tls. 600. Second pony, Tls. 150. Third pony, Tls. 100. A forced entry for and open only to winners at this Meeting. Weight for inches as per scale. Each pony entered to pay five per cent. of the value of the stakes and prizes won. Winners of presented cups to pay Tls. 15 for each race won.

Mr. Ring's <i>Amphion</i>	1
Mr. H. Bush's <i>Algerine</i>	2
Mr. Duplex's <i>The Dealer</i>	3

Time, 2 37 2/5

THE NIDESPESANDUM CUP.—Seven furlongs. Value, Tls. 150. Second pony, Tls. 50. If five or more starters, third pony Tls. 25. For all China ponies that have started at this Meeting and not won a race. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance, Tls. 5.

Mr. Fernando's <i>Loch Gail</i>	1
Mr. Fernando's <i>Loch Slapin</i>	2
Messrs Middy's and Vine's <i>Fiddlestrings</i>	3

Time, 1 50 1/5

INTERPORT RIFLE MATCH.

A special telegram from Singapore reached us on the 5th inst. to the following effect:—

The Singapore team has shot off in the Interport Rifle Match, putting together 893, made up as follows:—

Lieut. F. M. Elliot, S.V.R.	95
— Rahim	95
— Baker	94
— Karim	93
— Morrison	92
Jem. Adjt. Paudos Rao, 3rd M.L.I.	88
— Hashim	87
— Phillips	84
Bugler J. Flavagan, S.V.R.	83
— Fukodin	82

Singapore's score last year was 884, the other teams scoring as follows:—Hongkong 01; Shanghai, 84; Penang, 721.

The Hongkong team will fire in the Interport Rifle Match on Wednesday, the 12th instant, with Saturday, the 15th, as an alternative day, if Wednesday prove unfavourable. The following members are requested to attend on the Range to-day, and the team will be finally selected at the close of shooting:—Messrs. Baldwin, Cross, Stackwood, Lapsley, Crocker, Jeffery, Griffiths, Davies, Parker, Marshall, Pidgeon, Andrew, Pitt, Stewart Lammert, and West.

Mr. G. M. H. Playfair, H.B.M. Consul at Foochow, issues the following consular notification, dated 18th ult.:—The Chinese authorities state that Nantai is frequented at present by a large number of natives of the dangerous classes, who endeavour to screen their malpractices by pretending to be in the service of foreigners. The authorities request me to warn British subjects to exercise vigilance with regard to such persons.

CRICKET.

HILLS v. PLAINS (X I A SIDE).

Last Saturday's match, on the ground of the H.K.C.C., may fairly be described as a "one-man show"; it was a case of Hayhurst "first and the rest nowhere!" Not only did he take the opportunity of piling up his second "century" of the season—his score of 130 not out being more than two-thirds of the total of his side—but he also captured 5 of his opponents' wickets for 38 runs and brought off one of the smartest catches that has been seen on the ground for some time. Altogether it was Hayhurst's "day out," and if this proves to be his last appearance on the Club ground—which, it is to be hoped, will not be the case—he may certainly look back upon the match Hills v. Plains with a good deal of satisfaction, if not pride. That he was more favoured by fortune in this innings than he usually has been, certainly detracts somewhat from the merit of the performance—he was missed some six times—still, it was a finely hit innings and he played quite the right game for his side. His 130 not out contained three 6's and no less than twenty 4's. It may be of interest to give Hayhurst's scores and averages for the four average matches he has, so far, played in:—

Total runs	Innings	Times not out	Highest score	Average
330	4	1	130 (n.o.)	110

This is a record of which any man may justly be proud and sets an example of consistent usefulness which might well be emulated by other members of the Club.

There was a variation in the amount of wasted time on Saturday, the usual 45 to 50 minutes being prolonged to 1 hour and 10 minutes! Another quarter of an hour was wasted after tiffin and, altogether, of the 5 1/2 hours available for play, only 3 hours and 40 minutes were made use of. Owing, however, to the weakness of the "Plains" batting this proved to be sufficient and at 4.50 the "Hills" had gained a substantial victory by two wickets and 90 runs. Ward won the toss—as usual—and sent in Wynne and Venables to face the bowling of Toulmin and Mahon. The Major made 10 before being dismissed but Fawcett, who followed him, was clean bowled without scoring. Then began Hayhurst's long innings which was to last until Ward declared the innings closed at 3.10 with the total at 191 for 8 wickets. Of the other batsmen, Venables was the only one to reach double figures, his 19 being the second highest score. The fielding of the "Plains" was very poor as may be judged from the fact that some 12 or 13 catches were missed. The ground fielding, too, was bad, even Turner failing in this respect. Smith kept wicket well and Toulmin bowled well under very trying circumstances. With only 1 hour and 25 minutes left for play, it seemed quite likely that the "Plains" would save the game and, of course, it was also possible for them to make the runs. At no time, however, did they look like doing either the one or the other, and except for a fair stand made while Mahon and Hooper were together, their innings was little better than a procession to and from the wicket. Hooper's innings was the best he has played this season and was quite free from chances. Mahon's 21 was useful but his new style of play does not seem to suit his peculiar temperament. As stated above, the "Plains" were all dismissed by 4.50 for a poor score of 101, thus leaving the "Hills" victorious by 2 wickets and 90 runs. Hayhurst's bowling and the smart catch that disposed of Toulmin have both been mentioned; it only remains to state that the fielding of the "Hills" was fair as a whole and only 2 or 3 catches were missed. Venables kept wicket well and materially helped to improve Hayhurst's bowling analysis. The following are the full scores and analyses:—

Lieut. Venables, R.W.F., b Toulmin	19
Major Wynne, R.A., st Smith, b Toulmin ..	10
Capt. Fawcett, R.A., b Toulmin	0
Lieut. France-Hayhurst, R.W.F., not out ..	130
Major Radcliffe, R.E., c sub., b Mahon ..	2
A. G. Ward (capt.), c sub., b Mahon	7
J. A. Woodgates, b Toulmin	1
G. P. Lammert, c and b Toulmin	8
G. A. Woodcock, c and b Toulmin	0
W. R. Lemarchand, not out	8
Col. Ferrier, A.P.D. } did not bat.	
Lieut. Hill, R.W.F. }	

Extras

Total (8 wickets. Inns-declared.) 191

PLAINS.

W. C. D. Turner (capt.), c France-Hayhurst, b Fawcett	14
Lieut. Toulmin, R.M.L.I., c and b France-Hayhurst	4
Lieut. H. W. Smith, R.A., c Wynne, b Fawcett	5
Lieut. Bird, R.M.L.I., b France-Hayhurst	0
Dr. Martin, R.N., b Fawcett	2
Lieut. Mahon, R.N., b Wynne	21
J. Cooper, st Venables, b France-Hayhurst	30
Lieut. Rimington, S.F., run out	8
Capt. Tulloch, R.A., not out	3
H. Warren, c sub., b France-Hayhurst	0
Major Le B. Simmons, R.E., st Venables, b France-Hayhurst	2
G. Heron, c sub., b Lammert	0
Extras	12

Total 101
BOWLING ANALYSES.

HILLS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Toulmin	21	5	85	6
Mahon	19	2	64	2
Turner	5	—	21	—
Rimington	3	—	15	—

PLAINS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Fawcett	10	4	24	3
France-Hayhurst	11	2	38	5
Wynne	4	1	15	1
Woodgates	3	—	10	—
Lammert	2.3	1	2	1

H.M.S. "TAMAR" v. CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

This match was played at Happy Valley on the 1st inst. and won by the Craigen-gower C.C. by 27 runs. Appended are the scores:—

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

Rev. E. H. Good, c Pestonji, b Brawn	5
Lieut. Stansbury, b Pestonji	1
— Cooke, b Brawn	11
Lieut. Parker, b Brawn	9
Lieut. Solfeet, b Pestonji	0
— Bennett, b Pestonji	0
— Pope, b Pestonji	2
— Boggen, c Hertton, b Brawn	4
— Corben, c Hertton, b Brawn	0
Lieut. Butt, c M. E. Asger, b Brawn	2
— Grant, not out	0
Extras	2

Total 36
CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

A. O. Brawn, b Cooke	1
R. Pestonji, c Parker, b Good	2
J. L. Stuart, b Good	15
M. H. Harteam, c Solfeet, b Good	4
R. Basa, b Good	0
J. D. Kinnaird, b Cooke	10
R. C. Witchell, l.b.w. b Cooke	0
L. A. Rose, b Good	4
E. E. Hertton, not out	19
M. E. Asger, b Butt	4
A. E. Asger, b Butt	2
Extras	2

Total 63
BOWLING ANALYSES.

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Pestonji	11	4	17	4
Brawn	10.5	5	19	6

CRAIGENGOWER C.C.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Good	10	3	18	5
Cooke	9	2	27	3
Solfeet	3	—	16	—
Butt	2.2	1	2	2

CIVIL SERVICE C.C.

MARRIED v. SINGLE.

This match, played at Happy Valley on the 1st inst., was won by Singles, who fielded well, though they played one man short. Scores:—

MARRIED.

Allen, c Smythe, b Farrell	0
Lamble, b Smythe	23
Barrington, b Farrell	0
Woolley, b Farrell	21
Carter, c Knight, b Farrell	13
Wheal, b Farrell	0
Cotton, st Caesar, b Farrell	4
Brown, b Farrell	0
King, b Smythe	1
Cullen, b Smythe	0
Simmons, not out	0
Extras	6

Total 68
SINGLE

Roas, b Woolley	0
Hoggarth, l.b.w., b Lambie	35
Smythe, l.b.w., b Wheal	46
O'Donnell, b Barrington	7
Farrell, c Carter, b Lambie	5
Goldenberg, c Lambie, b Woolley	4
Knight, c Wheal, b Woolley	2
Craig, not out	5
Caesar, b Woolley	2
Haggard, c Brown	3
Extras	4

Total 113

FOOTBALL.

The Rugby match on the 1st inst. between the H.K.F.C. and Mr. Pringle's team was won by the latter by a dropped goal and three tries to a dropped goal. Neither team was very strong, and the Club was one short from the beginning and two short most of the second half, Goggin injuring his knee and retiring. Pringle played a fine game for his side.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The opening cruise of the new season took place on the 1st inst., when shortly after 2.30 p.m. a large fleet of vessels followed the Commodore's new yacht *Dione* to the back of "onecutters" Island. Little time was lost in starting the race which followed, a *siné qua non* of which was that each vessel should have a lady at the tiller. In more than one case this rule was observed somewhat more according to its letter than its spirit, but an interesting race resulted, in which the *Dione* and *Vernon* opened their careers in promising style by finishing well ahead of the rest of the fleet. A pretty struggle between these two resulted in favour of the latter by a small margin. At conclusion of the race the Commodore (the Hon. F. H. May) presented the prize to Mrs. Robinson, who sailed the *Vernon*, on board the *Dorothy* where the various competitors enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Hastings.

The times were as follows:—

	Hours	Min.	Sec.
<i>Vernon</i>	4	12	39
<i>Dione</i>	4	12	40
<i>Kathleen</i>	4	17	35
<i>Alannah</i>	4	18	10
<i>Maid Marian</i>	4	18	12
<i>Min</i>	4	18	27
<i>Colleen</i>	4	20	23
<i>Doreen</i>	4	21	30
<i>Iris</i>	4	22	38
<i>Payne</i>	4	22	55
<i>Bonito</i>	4	25	1

On the 2nd inst. the first Club race was sailed in a nice whole-sail breeze and there was a good turn out of yachts in all the classes. The course was to the Eastward; which gave a good test of the beating powers of the new boats in the initial stretch to the Channel Rocks. *Vernon*, *Dione* and *Alannah* all had a good start in the Championship class, the first-named being to windward, but *Bonito* was very indifferently served in this respect. Shortly after the start *Vernon* when on the port tack endeavoured to cross the bows of the *Alannah* which was on the opposite tack, but a foul resulting the formed retired from the race but was sailed round the course to see how she might have done had she been racing. *Dione* and *Vernon* both had a useful lead at the first mark having fairly held last year's champion *Alannah*, going to windward in a good breeze. On the run to the Kowloon Rock the old boat steadily gained on the two new ones and decreased their lead still more on the reach across to Meyer's Buoy, which was rounded with very little between the three, *Bonito* being a considerable way astern. On the beat back to Channel Rocks the new boats again more than held *Alannah* and began the second journey down wind with a substantial lead. The run and subsequent reach over the second journey to Meyer's Buoy gave much the same result as the same positions of the first round, albeit *Alannah* did not close the gap so much. On the run to the line *Alannah* headed *Vernon* which was sailing somewhat to leeward of the former, but a friendly puff of wind brought about a reversal of the positions and an interesting and fast race resulted in *Dione* finishing 4 seconds ahead of *Vernon*, which was in turn 30 seconds in front of *Alannah*. *Bonito* did not reach the line until some time later. *Alannah*, although beaten, was not disgraced and should have some interesting tussles with the new boats in the course of the season.

The one design class also sailed an interesting race, in which there was little between the four, the eventual winner being let up by a bout of luffing between the *Min* and *Kathleen* on the second reach.

In the second class *Tric* first succeeded in giving the time she was called upon to

concede, getting home with but 48 seconds to spare. It is to be hoped that this initial success will encourage the Club's Honorary Treasurer to sail more regularly than during last season.

The times in the different classes were as follows:—

CHAMPIONSHIP.

	Hours	Min.	Secs.	Points
<i>Dione</i>	3	39	26	10
<i>Vernon</i>	3	40	9	disq.
<i>Alannah</i>	3	41	39	4
<i>Bonito</i>	3	52	49	1

ONE DESIGN.

	Hours	Min.	Secs.	Points
<i>Erica</i>	4	0	25	10
<i>Min</i>	4	2	0	4
<i>Kathleen</i>	4	3	7	1
<i>Colleen</i>	4	3	30	0

SECOND CLASS.

	Hours	Min.	Secs.	Points
<i>Iris</i>	4	9	26	10
<i>Maid Marian</i>	4	10	14	4
<i>Payne</i>	4	11	51	1
<i>Doreen</i>	4	20	18	0

HOCKEY.

CLUB v. H.M.S. "OCEAN."

This match was played on Thursday afternoon, and the Club won by 2 goals to 1. There were some changes in the Club team, Mr. Silk and Dr. Martin, R.N., taking the places of J. Hooper and R. H. Carter. The Club had the misfortune to lose Dr. Martin's services shortly after the start, as he injured his knee, and had to retire. This left Murphy to do the work of two backs, and he played excellently, continually stopping the *Ocean's* rushes; he was well supported by the halves, Tulloch especially playing a fine game. Thornhill and Dartnell were very useful in the forward division, and were instrumental in notching the Club's 2 goals. Considering the fact that the Club played 10 men only for a greater portion of the game, they must be congratulated on their victory. Of the *Ocean's*, Barrett, Hall and Lampen showed good form, but there was nothing to choose between the others. They lacked the good combination which is so often apparent in naval teams, and we were glad to see the Club team doing better in this respect. Capt. Luard, R.M.L.I., and Mr. Scott, H.M.S. *Blenheim*, kindly acted as referees. The Club team was:—Goal, T. C. Gray (captain); backs, Mr. Martin, R.N. and L. Murphy; half-backs, A. W. Whitlow, Mr. Silk, R.N., and Capt. Tulloch, R.A.; forwards, P. P. J. Wodehouse, C. A. Parker, Lt. A. P. Solfeet, R.N., Lt. Badham Thornhill, R.A., and Dr. Dartnell, R.N.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR NOVEMBER.

The following cards were returned:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. T. C. Gray	103-22=81
Mr. E. J. Grist	87-5=82
Hon. R. M. Ramsey, R.N.	96-13=83
Dr. Martin, R.N.	97-14=83
Mr. H. W. Robertson	97-12=85
Mr. Dartnell, R.N.	106-20=86

25 entries.

POOL.

Mr. T. C. Gray	103-22=81
Mr. E. J. Grist	87-5=82
Dr. Drew, R.N.	99-15=84
Capt. T. G. Luard, R.M.L.I.	110-25=85
Mr. T. S. Forrest	84+2=86

30 entries.

The Corean Government has at last established a proper system of weights and measurements. A Seoul telegram dated the 21st ult. says that a law to this effect was promulgated on that day. The measures and weights are to be manufactured at the Government factory at a place near Liang-an, and the instruments at present in use in the country are to be prohibited in due course of time. The standard of measurement and weight—which has differed, according to localities—will thus be made uniform over the whole country. The despatch adds that the 150,000 yen recently borrowed from the Daiichi Bank of Tokyo, have been employed in this connection.

HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong Chess Club took place on Monday last, when the report and balance-sheet of the Club for the season just concluded were passed. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., was unanimously elected President of the Club, and the programme for the coming year was discussed. It is proposed to hold an international match, either Great Britain v. World or Portugal v. World, at the end of the present month, and also to have what is known at home as a "rapid transit" tournament, i.e. with a time limit of half a minute per move, in the near future, if sufficient entries are received. The Club being in a flourishing condition financially should soon be able to recover from its depletion of members during the past year. The match between Mr. P. C. de Souza, challenger, and Mr. P. W. Sergeant, holder of the Pollock Challenge Cup, has just commenced. The contest is for the best of five games, and the score at present stands:—Sergeant 1, De Souza 0.

PORTSMOUTH LETTER.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Portsmouth, 4th October.

THE "ORLANDO" MEMORIAL.

The officers and men of the cruiser *Orlando* have raised enough funds to erect a memorial to the memory of those who died during the ship's recent commission on the China Station, and have been granted a place in the Victoria Park here, where other memorials of a like nature are erected. The obelisk will be one of the prettiest and most novel, as it will be a bell tower of Oriental style, designed by Commander Edward F. B. Charlton, the late commander, and now of the torpedo instruction vessel *Vernon*. When the *Orlando's* men assisted in the capture of the Taku Forts, at the mouth of the Peiho River, 17th June, 1900, they took a huge bell used by the Chinese at the fort.

On a square base of Portland stone four columns of polished Aberdeen granite will support a curved roof, also of Portland stone, which is to be as nearly like the roof of a Chinese parada as it can be made. The finial on the roof is to be a stone representation of a Chinese mandarin's button. Hanging from the centre of a huge slab of stone under the roof will be the bell. It is 2ft. 3in. high, very thick, and weighs over two hundredweight. Around the bell is an inscription in Chinese characters, a translation of which is to be inscribed on a marble slab. It is as follows, and is singularly appropriate.

"Come pleasant weather and gentle rain,
The Empire happy, at peace again."

The structure will be square, fourteen feet in height from the base. On the frieze under the roof are inscriptions in English and Chinese. That on the principal front will be "H.M.S. *Orlando*, North China, 1900," while on the marble slab on the base are the names of the principal engagements—"*Taku Forts*, *Tientsin*, *Defence of the Legations*, *Peking*." The inscription on the north-west side of the frieze is a Chinese motto, the translation of which appearing on the other side is "Perpetual felicity achieved," while on the fourth side of the frieze is the ship's motto—"Fortiter Defendit Triumphans."

The names of the 18 officers and men who were killed or succumbed to wounds or died during the commission include those of Captain J. H. T. Burke, C.B., who died at sea on the voyage home (May 12th, 1902), Commander P. N. Wright, who died of wounds received at Tientsin, and Mr. E. A. Govett, midshipman. They are all to be inscribed on the tablets around the base. On one of these marble tablets is also the inscription "This bell was taken at the capture of the North-West Fort, Taku, June 17th, 1900, and brought home by H.M.S. *Orlando*. This memorial is erected by the officers and men in memory of the comrades who lost their lives during the campaign."

I have been able, through the kindness of a friend at the Chinese Legation in London, to send a translation of two inscriptions on the bell, and these, strangely enough, are most peculiarly appropriate to us this year. They are as follows:—

The first: "Lok Wai Ai" Temple established in the 10th year of the reign of the Emperor Kwang Su, at Tai-ku. Established by the military officers at Po Ting (Paoting-fu) Prefecture as a sign of long, long firmness of the Empire."

The second inscription is: "Empire peaceful good (or fair), wind (or weather), happy public, rain, fair (or light)."

Owing to the death of Captain Burke, C.B., en route home, the memorial will be handed over to the Corporation next week without any ceremony.

THE NAVY LEAGUE AND THE COLONIES.

At the end of September a special envoy of the Navy League, in the person of Mr. H. F. Wyatt, sailed from England for Canada. Mr. Wyatt's main object "will be to urge the paramount importance of sea power, and to endeavour to promote co-operation in the cause of naval defence." In pursuance of this object he will spend some three months in Canada, and then proceed via Vancouver to Japan, "where he will pass some weeks, in order to study Japanese naval affairs." From Japan Mr. Wyatt will come to Hongkong, "where the League has an influential branch." From Hongkong Mr. Wyatt will proceed to Australia, where Sir E. Barton, the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth, has promised to take the chair at a public meeting in support of his mission. New Zealand will next be visited, where Mr. Seddon has promised a sympathetic reception. Finally Mr. Wyatt will visit the Cape, and will address meetings in South Africa before returning to England.

Some remarks from the *Naval and Military Record* on the subject of the tour will be read with interest. The service paper says:—The mission of the Navy League's envoy to the colonies has produced a leading article in the *Times*, not wholly favourable to the movement. There is a good deal of force in what the *Times* says against this mission being undertaken at the present time when the Colonial Ministers have just had every opportunity of consulting with the Admiralty on those very questions which Mr. H. F. Wyatt will presumably address colonial audiences. The mission of Mr. Wyatt is to preach the importance of sea power to Great Britain, and to promote co-operation in the cause of naval defence. With this praiseworthy object in view the envoy will spend three months in Canada, and will visit Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, besides some of the colonies. So far as Canada is concerned, it is plain that Mr. Wyatt's efforts will not clash with any official schemes, for the simple reason that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has returned to his people unaffected by the pleadings of Lord Selborne and the Board. If Mr. Wyatt can succeed in rousing Canadian opinion to the obligation of contributing to our fleet he will perform a great service to the Empire. Some time will elapse before the envoy reaches Australia, so that the Australian Ministers will not be likely to resent his mission. They might do so if he were going direct to the Commonwealth, and it is quite probable that Sir W. Laurier may do so—that is if he cares enough about the mission to notice it. The Navy League, we may suppose, regards the recent conference as a failure, and desires to stimulate the colonists by a course of lectures. It is a praiseworthy endeavour, and already the League has accomplished something in the colonies. The *Times* is inclined rather to sneer, not at Mr. Wyatt personally, but at the mission. An unofficial mission of this kind could hardly be supported in Printing House Square, so that Mr. Wyatt may take heart and not be discouraged. We understand that Mr. Wyatt pays the bulk of his own expenses, but will enjoy free railway passes in all the colonies, and is likely to receive hospitable receptions. He is already well known in this country as a capable lecturer on naval matters.

It has been intimated from the War Office that the Japanese National Anthem, as at present played by British military bands, is not the correct air, and officers commanding units have been directed to obtain the recognised edition, copies of which have now been prepared.

KWANGSI REBELS IN KWEICHAU

The *N.-C. Daily News* translates, the following from its Changsha native correspondent's letter:—

News was received here the other day that a large body of Kwangsi rebels had invaded Kweichau province and was besieging the city of Hsingyihien. Immediately after this Governor Yü Lien-san of this city received a telegram from Governor Têng Hua-hsi, of Kweichau province, urging that as Hsingyihien, which was being besieged by Kwangsi rebels, is near the Kweichau-Hunan frontiers, the authorities of the latter province should send aid to Kweichau and assist in raising the siege of Hsingyihien and exterminating the invaders. Upon receipt of the despatch Governor Yü Lien-san was just on the point of sending a strong force over the borders into Kweichau when another despatch from Governor Têng Hua-hsi arrived informing him that Hsingyihien had succumbed to the assaults of the rebels who, flushed with victory, were being joined by large bands of desperadoes and rowdies. The despatch also stated that the Kwangsi rebels were sending out placards proclaiming that the object of their invasion of Kweichau was not to ravage the province but merely to "borrow a passage into Szechuan, whither they (the rebels) were bound for the purpose of assisting the Boxers in that province."

THE SYNDICAT DU YUNNAN.

An extraordinary general meeting of the above syndicate was held on the 26th September, M. Achille Adam presiding, to receive a statement concerning the concession recently granted to the syndicate.

The Chairman stated that the concession granted to the syndicate the right to exploit the mines in seven counties or districts of the province of Yunnan. This territory covered an immense extent, and comprised copper, gold, silver, coal, iron, platinum, nickel, and tin mines, as well as petroleum, precious stones and quicksilver. The intricate and difficult negotiations which had resulted in placing this valuable concession in their hands were conducted for more than 18 months by their able agent, M. Emile Rocher, formerly French Consul-General in China. The shareholders would, perhaps, permit him to convey on their behalf and on behalf of his colleagues and himself their thanks to M. Rocher for the ability, patience, and tact shown by him in the negotiations, first with the Viceroy and authorities at Yunnan, and afterwards in the still more difficult task of obtaining the sanction of the Imperial authorities at Peking. M. Rocher stated that the number of mines which had been worked or were still working in the territory forming part of the syndicate's concession was 59, of which 27 were silver, 25 copper, 6 gold, and 1 tin. He (the speaker) did not include in these figures the number of iron mines or the number of mineral outcrops which had been located, but which, so far, had not been worked owing to want of capital. He might add that at Koutsion the recognised outcrops extended for about 50 miles upon which were now worked about 60 tin mines, as well as silver and copper. M. Rocher, referring to these in his report, said:—"One cannot help recognising that the concession granted to the syndicate is, without possibility of contradiction, the most advantageous of all the concessions which have so far been granted in China." The net profits, which would be arrived at after provision had been made for certain charges and allowances, would be divided as follows:—10 per cent. to the Provincial Government, 25 per cent. to the Imperial Government, and 65 per cent. to the company. This division would be made on the net profits, and after deduction of all the working expenses, including custom duties, rent of mines, lands, and taxes—8 per cent. as interest on capital, 10 per cent. for sinking fund, and 10 per cent. for reserve fund. A most important provision was that by which they had power to transfer or sell to any other company any portion of their concession, which was for a period of 60 years, with power to renew, though not for a longer period than 25 years. The concession, therefore, was for 85 years.

M. Rocher, at the request of the Chairman, addressed the meeting. He observed that Yunnan, on account of its great mineral deposits, had been for the past ten centuries the objective of the Chinese Government, but it was only during the Ming dynasty that this province was declared a part of the Chinese Empire. The aborigines who occupied the whole area were driven into the hills, and the new settlers, nearly all Chinese soldiers coming from the banks of the Lower Yangtze Valley, took possession of the plains, and began to develop the agricultural and mineral resources of the newly-acquired territory, which has been the only great metal-producing territory of China. The population of Yunnan, estimated before the rebellion at 20,000,000, was reduced by war and plague to 8,000,000; but since peace was restored it had increased, and was now estimated at 10,000,000. A great part of the surplus population of Szechuen also found its way there. The inhabitants might be divided into three kinds (he did not say races, for there were many among the natives)—aborigines, Mahomedans, and Chinese. They all lived now on good terms. The country was perfectly quiet, and there was no reason to believe that peace would be disturbed. It was on account of the geographical position of the province and of the different races of which the population was composed that foreigners were welcomed there. The case was rather the reverse in other parts of the Empire. Owing to the altitude of the province, which averaged 5,903ft., the climate was healthy—neither cold nor warm—and the agricultural products were numerous. The annual production of opium was estimated at over £2,000,000 sterling, and of musk about £1,000,000, while the other products were far in excess of the needs of the population, although they could not be exported owing to the difficulties in the way of transport. Referring afterwards to a map of Yunnan, he described the situation of the concession which had been granted to the Syndicate, remarking that the area embraced a little over a third of the province. He pointed out the country to be traversed by the projected railway, which, he stated, passed through the centre of the concession.

After some remarks by Mr. U. E. M. Bourke, who said the concession was obtained by the co-operation of the British and French Governments, Sir R. G. W. Herbert proposed, and Sir F. Astley-Corbett seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to M. Rocher.

HONGKONG.

Next Monday, the 10th inst., will be observed as a public holiday throughout the Colony, in celebration of the anniversary of the birthday of H.M. the King.

On the 3rd inst. the anniversary of the birthday of the Mikado was celebrated by the Japanese here, and the Japanese shipping in the Harbour was dressed with flags.

The number of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum during the week ending 1st November, was 203 non-Chinese and 61 Chinese to the former, and 51 non-Chinese and 2,094 Chinese to the latter.

During last week the only case of communicable disease notified as occurring in the Colony was one of enteric, an European case at the Peak. Within the day ending at noon on Monday, however, a fatal Chinese plague case was reported in Des Vœux Road West.

Kowloon Marine Lots Nos. 74 and 75 and Inland Lots Nos. 1,140 and 1,141 were exposed to sale by public auction on the 3rd inst. at the office of the P.W.D. The property is situated at Tsimshatsui Point, and extends to 59,952 square feet. The upset price was \$232,800. After spirited bidding the property was bought by Mr. J. Orange of Messrs. Leigh and Orange at the price of \$451,000.

On the 1st inst. the procession of the Holy Rosary took place in the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Glenealy. This is the first year that it was held, and we are informed that this religious fixture will be made an annual one in future. The service was beautiful and impressive; the banners, cross, and other paraphernalia used at the procession were all new. The committee of the feast worked hard to make the procession a success.

Dogs from Shanghai will not be permitted to land in the Colony for a period of three months.

On the 31st ult. a Chinese employee at the Takoo Sugar Refinery, Quarry Bay, fell a distance of four feet on to an iron pipe, and sustained internal injuries from which he died.

The steamer *Hoiko* was arrested in connection with an action for damages by a collision which took place on 7th March in the Canton River near Taihi light-house, the amount claimed being \$19,000. She was subsequently released on security being filed. Messrs. Mounsey and Bratton, solicitors, are for the plaintiff; Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, for the defendant.

A practical joke brought to a tragic end a gambling party in an unoccupied house at 25, Third Street, West Point, on Friday last. During the game one Chinaman stole outside and imitated a police call so cleverly that an immediate stampede ensued, during which one man fell or was crowded over a low parapet wall into the back-yard, a distance of about forty feet. An Indian constable was informed of the incident, and on going to the place he found the unfortunate Chinaman seated on the ground with his back to the wall and his head hanging forward. He was apparently uninjured, but on the first touch it was seen that his neck had been broken.

There is no doubt much wisdom in the present curtailment of the water supply, and every sympathy is felt with the authorities in their difficulty, but it is matter of common complaint in the Colony that residents are unable to get water even during the hours stipulated in Mr. Chatam's recent notice. For the past two or three mornings famine conditions have prevailed in localities less than five minutes' walk from the Clock Tower, and already the obnoxious traffic has had to be begun in water collected promiscuously from the hillsides or wayside runnels. In Wanchai the Chinese are being supplied to some extent by a large water-boat which brings water from the other side.

The members of the C.M.S. Baxter Mission beg to thank those who so kindly helped and those who bought so liberally at the sale of work in the City Hall on Tuesday. It was the most successful sale that they have had for years, the amount taken being \$1,758. The Governor and Lady Blake were present, and by the kind permission of Colonel Caudy and the officers of the 14th Bombay Light Infantry their band played during the sale. The ladies at the stalls were:—Miss Blake, Mrs. Denny, Mrs. Hastings, Mrs. Langlands, Mrs. Saunders, Mrs. Master, Mrs. Watson, Miss Hazland, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Lang, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Goetz, Mrs. Krieg, Mrs. Sharp, Mrs. Dennis, Mrs. Parker Brown, Mrs. Bateson Wright, Mrs. Lammert, Miss Seth, Mrs. Goodman, the Misses Goodman, Mrs. A. Anderson, Mrs. Tooker, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Swau, Mrs. Tomes, Mrs. Turner, Miss Hancock, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Dawes, Mrs. Norris, Mrs. Canton, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Woolmer, Mrs. F. Hazland, Miss Elwin, Mrs. R. T. Wright, Miss Hunter, and Miss Danby. —Contributed.

On the 1st inst. the members of "D" Infantry Co., H.K.V.C., met in Thomas' Grill Room for the purpose of saying farewell to their late Instructor, Sergt. S. Moore. R.W.F. Sergt. Moore has been associated with the Company in the above capacity for some time, and the great interest he has shown in the advancement of the unit, as well as his unvarying and genial temperament, have made him an universal favourite with all ranks, who heretofore chose this occasion to present him with some tangible mark of their esteem. Colour-Sergt. McKenzie, in handing Sergt. Moore a handsome pair of prismatic field glasses by Ross, of London, thanked him on behalf of the members of the Company for the able and tactful manner in which he had done his work while attached to the unit, and suitably expressed the extreme regret of all concerned at his approaching departure. He trusted that Sergt. Moore would find the present which he now had the pleasure of handing him an useful one, and begged to convey to him therewith the hearty good wishes of the members of "D" Co. for his future welfare and advancement. The meeting terminated by those present drinking "Health and success to Sergt. Moore."

Mr. F. T. Keyt, M.B., has been appointed Second Port Health Officer.

Damage to the extent of \$100 was done to a junk with which the French steamer *Eclair* collided on Wednesday night, the police reported yesterday, as she was leaving the harbour at the Capinimun end. The steamer's bow was also damaged.

The death returns for September show a total of 555 deaths, 31 in the European and foreign community (23 civilians, 6 Army, 2 Navy) and 524 among the Chinese. Chest affections accounted for 123 deaths, malarial fever for 30, and cholera for 25, the non-Chinese figures being 5, 3, and 3 respectively. The death-rates in the principal registration districts were:—British and foreign civil population, 28.1 per 1,000 per annum; Chinese, Victoria, land 23.3, harbour 20.1; Chinese, whole Colony, land 21.7, boat 19.8, land and boat 21.1; whole civil community 21.6.

The Austrian cruiser *Kaiser Karl VI* arrived on the 3rd inst. from Singapore.

The battleship *Ocean* arrived last Saturday from Nagasaki and the surveying-ship *Waterwitch* on Sunday from Mirs Bay.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Archbishop Guidi, the Delegate Apostolic to the Philippine Islands, will come out, with his suite, by the next French mail. He will tranship for Manila at Singapore.

The French syndicate for the exploitation of the mines in Fokien has received imperial authorisation to proceed with its proposed work, according to *L'Echo de Chine*.

The two Japanese warships *Asama* and *Taka-sago* arrived at Singapore, on their way home from King Edward's Coronation, on the 27th and 28th ult., having left Colombe on the 21st.

M. Beau, the new Governor-General of French Indo-China, arrived at Saigon on the 15th ult. and was to leave shortly for Tonkin, where rice has, owing to drought, risen to famine prices—reaching even five dollars a picul. On the day after his arrival the Governor-General signed a decree to forbid the exportation of rice from Tonkin.

A telegram to Japan dated Peking, 26th October, says that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung tried to float a loan of 400,000 taels in his province in order to relieve the finances of his Government; but he was unsuccessful. The Viceroy is now trying to borrow one million taels from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

The correspondent of the *British North Borneo Herald* at Beaufort draws a glowing picture of progress there. It is beyond doubt, in his opinion, that there is a bright future before Beaufort as an agricultural centre. Mr. Chee Swee Cheung's sugar-factory is expected to do great things and when the New London Borneo Tobacco Company's land above the Penotal Gorge commences to yield, Beaufort should benefit substantially in the transport and provisioning of the estate coolies, while the tobacco will provide traffic for the railway and help to swell the Jesselton export returns.

The *Militär-Zeitung*, of Vienna, stated last month that at the beginning of October two Austrian warships, the cruiser *Kaiser Carl VI*, and the t.g.b. *Zenta*, would leave for foreign stations. The destination of the *Kaiser Carl VI* is the Gulf of Pechili, which she will reach in March next, when the gulf is free from ice. She comes out to relieve the cruiser *Maria Theresia*, which vessel she has now met at Singapore, where they will spend Christmas together. The *Maria Theresia* will leave Singapore soon after the turn of the year, and arrive home in the spring of next year. After landing men to relieve the small Austrian detachments in Tientsin and Peking, the *Kaiser Carl VI* will make a cruise as far as Vladivostok and then to Japan. In the course of a year's cruise the *Zenta* (which was on this station a few months ago) will visit the German and Portuguese settlements on the East African Coast, then Madagascar, the ports of Cape Colony, and German West Africa. In May, 1903, she will cross the Atlantic to South America, where she will visit Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Pernambuco, and the ports of Guiana and of Venezuela, and then return home via Gibraltar.

Le Courrier d'Haiphong announces that M. Rodier has been appointed Lieut.-Governor of Cochinchina in the place of M. de Lamoignon who goes to Cambodia.

It seems that the principal aim of a new journal which is to be started shortly in Penang is to provide a channel through which the Chinese community can ventilate its grievances and express its views on public matters. The paper will be published in English, however.

Court officials write to Shanghai that the health of the Empress Dowager has been declining. She is often sleepless at night. This accounts for her intention to spend the winter at Paotingfu. She has repeatedly informed her confidential advisers that such was the reason.

The *Mercury* publishes the two following items:—H.E. Chang Chih-tung wants Dr. Martin to go with him to Nanking, to form a big university for the five Yangtze provinces. The Rev. W. A. Cornaby has been offered the chair for chemistry of the new Hupeh University.

The first coal train, consisting of ten waggons, arrived at Tsintau on the 30th ult. from Fangtze. There was a celebration at the railway station, to which invitations were issued. The manager of the Shantung-Bergbau-Gesellschaft (Shantung Mining Company), Mr. Michaelis, made a speech, whereupon Governor Truppel congratulated the Company upon their success.

The Manager of the Hongkong Branch of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha informs us that according to cable advices from Japan, the s.s. *Idzumi Maru* (Bombay Line), which left Kobe on the 29th ult. for Moji and Hongkong, has stranded in the Inland Sea of Japan. The mails, passengers, and crew are reported safe. It is also advised that the s.s. *Yamaguchi Maru* will take the place of the *Idzumi Maru* on the run to Bombay, but so far the schedule dates have not yet been fixed.

The steamer *Cheang Chew*, which left Singapore on the 15th ult. for this port and Amoy with 367 Chinese passengers on board, put back on the night of the 27th. It appears that on the 17th, two days out from Singapore, her crank shaft broke. Fortunately there was a spare shaft in the hold and this was got out and fitted with great difficulty in place of the broken one. The fixing of the new shaft took seven days and during that time the vessel was not under control. On the morning of the 28th ult. the *Cheang Chew* went into dock.

M. Hardouin, the newly appointed Chef du Bureau of the Indo-China Government, and M. Bonin, Chef du Bureau Politique du Gouverneur-General de l'Indo-Chine, have reached Hanoi by the M.M. steamer *Sydney*. M. Hardouin (who is not unknown in Hongkong and was a prominent figure at Canton) is 46 years of age. He was Interpreter at Shanghai and Bangkok, and in 1897 Consul at the latter port. In 1899 he was appointed Consul for France at Canton, a post he filled with much energy. M. Bonin is 37 years of age. Entering the colonial service when quite young he spent years in Tonkin, Laos, the Malay Archipelago, China, and Central Asia, being appointed to several important missions to the Laos tribes. He was made a Consul in China last year and has recently been officiating at Peking. Like M. Hardouin, M. Bonin is a Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur.

Mr. Waeber being now in Seoul, says the *Japan Mail*, where his arrival has something of a Frankenstein character, all kinds of rumours fill the air. He is about to demand from Corea a lease of land at Fusan, or at Masampo, or at Chinghai, or at all these places simultaneously, which shall serve as a naval basis for Russia. He is about to insist that Corea shall emerge from her immediate financial embarrassment by becoming a debtor to the Russo Chinese Bank in a large amount. He is about to require that he himself, or some other important Russian personage, shall be employed by the Korean Government in the capacity of adviser. These and other achievements are busily assigned by rumour to the Russian diplomatist. But everything rests on hearsay of the flimsiest nature. Nothing is certain except that Mr. Waeber has gone to Seoul for some purpose or other. We opine that it is to relieve Mr. Pavlov, but the news-mongers will have a "high old time" until the sober truth is definitely known.

The Court of Enquiry held at the British Consulate, Nagasaki, on the 17th ult. into the burning of the British steamer *Yoshino Maru* exonerated the officers from blame, but found that ordinary cotton bales should not be carried on deck unless covered by awnings or tarpaulins.

There is a growing belief in Manila that the U.S. Congress will next session amend the Chinese exclusion laws so as to permit yellow labour to be imported into the Philippines. The opinion is strongly held on this side that only in the importation of Chinese labour for the plantations will the Philippines find salvation.

The Shanghai *Sin Wen Pao* gathers that the Russian Minister of Finance, M. Witte, has left Changtsenfu, Kirin province, for Port Arthur, etc., ostensibly travelling for pleasure. But it is reported that upon the Minister's return to Kirin, he will hold several secret interviews with the Tartar General on important matters relating to Manchuria. Before the Minister left, he arranged several dates to meet the Tartar General at Changtsenfu.

Maj.-Gen. Sir Alfred Gaselee, who has been on leave in England since vacating his command of the British troops in China, has obtained permission to proceed to India to take up the command of Lucknow District, Bengal, to which he was appointed in April, 1901, in recognition of his distinguished services in connection with the occupation of Peking. Gen. Gaselee will be present and act as umpire at the Indian manoeuvres. On his assuming the active duties of his command in India, Maj.-Gen. Sir William Meiklejohn, who has been officiating for him, will proceed home.

The insincerity of the French attitude over the question of Shanghai's evacuation is shown by an article in a recent issue of *L'Echo de Chine*, which urged that as France, unlike England, Germany, Japan, and Russia, has no naval or military station in or near North China, she must keep a thousand or so troops at Shanghai, where they are a menace to nobody. A Berlin telegram to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* says that "the question of the evacuation of Shanghai is treated absolutely identically by Germany and France." We are not surprised to hear it.

A letter from H. M. Cousin at Manila is published in the *Gazette*, enclosing an announcement of the modification of quarantine rules against Hongkong in Manila. Vessels from Hongkong may now bring steerage passengers without subjecting the vessels to quarantine, and if the health conditions in Hongkong remain satisfactory, ships from this port will be allowed to come direct to Manila, without calling at Mariveles, after the 1st inst. The notice continues:—The prohibitive regulation against the shipment of fresh vegetables from cholera-infected ports still remains in force.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 25th October:—The reports coming in from the surrounding country districts agree all too closely about the lamentable state of the crops through want of rain. The best that can be hoped for, even if rain comes now, is that one third of a normal yield might be obtained, while if the drought continues there will be nothing left to gather in. A "Double Rise Snipe-shooting" competition for a handsome prize presented by Mr. Siemssen took place on Green Island on Wednesday. Mr. Graham with a fine score of eight doubles won easily. Mr. Gittins retired at the seventh round.

M. A. de Bilinski predicts in the *Nineteenth Century* that Russia is going to eat us all up.—"The picture of the ultimate destiny of Russia must show her in the rôle of mistress of Asia and Europe, unified under the action of the Slav leaven. Russia is bound to attain extraordinary greatness, not only through the internal development of her existing empire, but through further expansion. Her dominion, in any case, representing that of the whole Slav race, will stretch from the Arctic and North Seas to the Persian Gulf and the Mediterranean, and from the Pacific to the Atlantic and the Oder." The other nations can hardly be expected to enjoy such a prospect, and therefore M. de Bilinski thinks:—A coalition may be formed to hold the Titan in check. There would be three partners in this combination; the Chinese, the Latin, and, of course, the German federations." Absurd speculation could hardly go further.

It appears that M. Lessar, Russian Minister at Peking, has been suffering from peritonitis, but is now on the way to recovery.

The *Romblon*, one of the five gunboats being built for the Philippine Government by the Craga Dock Co., Ltd., was successfully launched from their yard on the 15th inst.

The September mortality returns in Singapore show 876 deaths, 183 from fever, giving a death-rate of 44.67 per thousand. During the week ended October 18, there were 220 deaths, giving a rate of 48.77 per thousand.

Three Japanese of Fukuoka have been committed for trial for salting a barren gold-mine, which they sold to a Mr. James Johnstone for 80,000 yen, receiving 12,641 yen in cash. They originally bought it for 17,500 yen.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Engineer C. F. L. Denkin to the *Tamar*, for Hongkong Yard, to date September 29; and Engineer G. H. Vincent, to the *Tamar*, for charge of machinery in reserve, to date October 1.

Tientsin papers state that Mr. Edmund Cousins, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., has been nominated a Director of the Imperial Railways of North China as the representative of the bondholders, or to speak more accurately, of the British and Chinese Corporation, Limit d.

Mr. Jonas Mendelson, head of the firm of Mendelson Brothers, who arrived in Yokohama thirty-four years ago, died suddenly on the 19th ult., aged 58. He leaves a widow, a grown-up son, and three daughters, the eldest of whom was to have been married on the 22nd ult.

The report of the Oriental Hotel, Ltd., Kobe for the year ended the 31st of August last, shows a divisible balance, after writing off 17,000 yen for depreciation and deducting 3,500 yen paid in May as interim dividend, of 19,442 yen. It is proposed to pay a final dividend of 3.50 yen on the ordinary shares, a dividend of 8 per cent. on the preference shares, and of 37.50 yen each on the founders' shares, and place 6,030 yen to reserve.

There are two schemes for dealing with the unfortunate foundry at Wakamatsu, Japan. One is that the Government shall keep it, making further necessary payments which will bring the total in 1906, when it will begin to pay its way, up to 34 million yen; the other is to turn it over to a private company, whereby the Government's loss would apparently be only some 26½ million yen, but it would get nothing when the concern begun to pay.

According to a Seoul telegram to the *Asahi*, the American Minister there has reported to the Korean Government on the negligence of the Governor of Unsan, in not fully protecting the American right to work the gold mines in that locality, and has demanded of Corea the dismissal of the Governor. It is understood that the mining concession was originally bought by an American syndicate from the Korean Government for 300,000 yen and that the syndicate has been paying Corea an annual royalty of 25,000 yen, regardless of the amount of profit realised from the mining.

Mr. Waeber was received in audience by the Emperor of Corea on the 18th ult. H.E. presented credentials as Special Envoy to the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Emperor's accession. Mr. Waeber has since been seeking a conference with the Foreign Minister. It is understood that he intends to ask the lease of a site at Masampo or somewhere near that port. It is also reported that he will try to induce the Korean Government to effect a loan from the Russo-Chinese Bank. He will also urge the Government to employ Russians as advisers. No formal negotiations have yet been opened.

In dealing with epidemics the Japanese are certainly very thorough. The Yokohama Municipal Assembly has adopted a proposal to burn several blocks of houses, comprising in all 105 abodes, where plague has broken out. These blocks were isolated for some days, and the inhabitants were taken for purposes of segregation to the Kanagawa forts. They were conveyed thither in a number of small boats. The buildings of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, the Seamen's Club, and the godowns belonging to the Yokohama Specie Bank will be exempted from the destruction. The cost of this huge conflagration is estimated at 36,912.77 yen. The burning is to be carried out immediately.

Siam is said to be going ahead with her railways and it is expected that the line to Utradit will be completed in four years' time. Thence it will be pushed on through Chiangmai to the Burmese frontier at Chiengsen. A quantity of material will be required, and it is anticipated that tenders for this will shortly be called for.

Mr. E. B. Drew, Commissioner of Customs at Foochow, notifies that, beginning on the 31st October current duties on imports will be levied at the new rates given in the "Revised Import Tariff for the Trade of China," which has been drawn up in accordance with Article VI of the Peace Protocol of 7th September, 1901. Copies of this new import tariff may be bought at the Custom House.

The Shanghai Rowing Club's autumn regatta was held on the 21st and 22nd ult. The opening race of the first day, the International Eights was easily won by the English eight from the Irish, German, and Scottish Eights in the order named. Dr. P. S. Denhard won the Ladies' Purse from L. E. P. Jones. A challenge four-oar race between the Mih-ho-loong and Deluge fire brigades fell to the former. On the second day the Germans won the International Fours, beating the English boat by two lengths, while the Scots and Irish brought up the rear. The Hong Cup was contested by the Russo-Chinese Bank and Farnham, Boyd & Co., the former winning, while a Rowing Club four beat a Balloting Co. mittee four in a challenge race.

A most distressing affair, says the Chaotung (Yunnan) correspondent of the N.C. Daily News, has just sprung up at Koknei, one of the Roman Catholic mission stations in the north of the province. Loneliness and illness have so injured the French priest in charge that he has apparently gone out of his mind, and is most reckless in his behaviour, on one occasion going so far as to shoot at a runner who came to his place on official business. Fortunately the man was not hit. All kinds of rumours are about concerning the priest, and the mandarins are very anxious that he shall be removed before serious damage is done.

Messrs. Behn Meyer & Co., Singapore, received a cable message from their agents in Penang on the 16th ult. to the effect that the s.s. *Koenigsberg* had arrived there the previous evening. The fire it had been ascertained, had originated amongst the Singapore cargo. It was expected that about 2,800 tons of cargo would have to be discharged, and the vessel would probably be detained at least a fortnight. The fire broke out on the 5th inst. in the number 2 hold.

Latest news from North Siam states that the Siamese troops and gendarmerie are well able to cope with the Shans. The following details of the recent death of Captain Jensen of the gendarmerie are given by the Siam Observer. Captain Jensen was in command of an advanced party of gendarmes marching into Payao district. On the 14th inst. this party met and attacked a position held by some of the Shan dacoits at Hoey Chieng; a place eight hours' march south of Payao. It appears that Captain Jensen was shot while leading the attack. After he was shot the gendarmes retired, bearing the remains of their leader, to a position near the river called Barn Ma Kar, where they met the main body of gendarmes and troops. On the next day a party of Shans, 150 strong, came down to Barn Ma Kar and attacked the troops. The attack was easily repulsed and the Shans retired, leaving 8 dead and 6 captured with 7 ponies. There were no casualties on the Siamese side excepting Captain Jensen. The King of Siam, having heard that Captain Jensen has left his mother in Denmark, has granted her a pension for life.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON 23rd October:—Re-reels alone continue in enquiry at full rates, and have been sold at a further advance up to \$79 average for Nos. 1 & 2, ordinary classification. Settlements of 131 Bales are reported and very little remains on offer at the moment. Filatures have been only moderately dealt in; but a decline of \$20.25 p. picl. on current rates would doubtless bring buyers forward again. Chee Chung Wo 10 11 has been done at \$1,000, Ho King Wo 10 12 at

\$980, Min Lun On, Mei Lun Hing 10 12 at \$975. Yee Woo Cheong 10 18 at \$881 and 18 22 at \$850. Best 3c. Ordre 1, 13, 15 is held for \$850, without sale. On fuller sizes concessions are obtainable here and there, and business has been done in 13 15, 14 18 at \$815.75, respectively. 10 12 is held for \$915 against \$890 offered. Short-reels have also ruled quiet. Lately some enquiry for Best 2nd Class chops has resulted in the settlement of about 130 Bales at \$93.920 for Koun King, Min Si Lun, Tack (Wo Cheong, Man Po Lun and equivalent. Waste.—The e are no signs of weakening from the high level to which prices of this article have attained, and little fresh business has been done. A sale of 100 Bales Steam Ext. Sol. opened at \$145 marks, the highest rate paid so far for foreign export.

CAMPOR.

HONGKONG, 7th November. No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 7th November.—The position of the market is nearly the same as when last reported. Shikloong, No. 1, White..... \$8.10 to \$8.15 picl. do. " 2, White..... 7.80 to 7.85 " Shikloong, No. 1, Brown..... 5.90 to 5.95 " do. " 2, Brown..... 5.70 to 5.75 " Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.05 to 8.10 " Swatow, No. 1, White..... 6.70 to 6.75 " do. " 1, Brown..... 5.65 to 5.70 " do. " 2, Brown..... 5.55 to 5.60 " Foochow Sugar Candy..... 12.95 to 12.10 " Shikloong "..... 9.50 to 9.55 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 7th November.—Large demands having come forward, the prices are declining. Saigon, Ordinary..... \$3.75 to 3.8 " Round, Good quality..... 4.65 to 4.70 " Long..... 4.85 to 4.90 Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2..... 4.15 to 4.20 " Garden, " No. 1..... 4.40 to 4.45 " White..... 5.00 to 5.05 " Fine Cargo..... 5.20 to 5.25 "

COTTON.

HONGKONG 7th November.—Small business at last quotations. Stock, about 900 bales. Bombay..... 21.00 to 22.50 picul, Bengal (New), Rangoon,) 22.00 to 24.50 " and Dacca,) Shanghai and Japanese, 25.00 to 26.50 " Tunchow and Ningpo, 25.00 to 26.50 " Sales:—380 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 5th November:—The position of the yarn market during the past fortnight has been rather puzzling. Despite a continued brisk enquiry from Shanghai, and high level of prices ruling in Bombay, making it almost impossible to replace yarn at anything like our ruling quotations, the Chinese operator alluded to in last report has been persistently manipulating for a fall and has thrown another lot of nearly 4,000 bales, mostly of No. 10s., on the market at \$3 to \$4 under existing currencies, yarn to be delivered in 8 to 10 weeks. No explanation of this unwarranted action can be given, and we can only presume that the native importer has been actuated more by a keen spirit of speculation than to any grasp or special knowledge of the situation. Under the circumstances, the late healthy tone of our market has been considerably affected and although we again close steady, prospects ahead are far from encouraging, especially in view of the early closing of the Northern Ports during winter.

In addition to the above mentioned 4,000 bales, our local and neighbouring country demand has been responsible for another 200 bales, thus bringing up the total business of the fortnight to over 6,000 bales, the chief feature being a brisk enquiry for No. 12s., which show an improvement of 50 cents to \$2 per bale, with greatly reduced stocks. The depression in the interior still continues and the prospects of the usual autumn demand are very remote.

Local Manufacture:—Sales reported are 750 bales No. 10s. at \$95 and 400 bales No. 12s. at \$98, all forward delivery.

Japanese Spinning:—Importations considerably checked by unfavourable exchange; business of the interval amounting only to about 400 bales No. 20s., say Yellow Joss at \$118, Three Rings, Three Horses, Double Deer at \$122 and Red Peacock at \$124 to 125, to arrive in twomonths.

Raw Cotton:—The market during the interval has been featureless, and sales of nearly 500 bales Bengal at from \$22 to \$24 have transpired; an old stock about 900 bales. Some 250 bales Chinese Cotton have changed hands at \$26; stock about 400 bales. Quotations are Indian \$19 to \$24 and China 23 to \$26.

Exchange on India closes weak to-day at Rs. 12 1/2 for T T and Rs. 124 for Post. On Shanghai 73 1/2 and on Yokohama 24 1/2 per cent. premium.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 25th ultimo, viz:—

India:—In sustained enquiry, sales amounting to 9,427 bales, comprising 285 bales of No. 6s., 2,300 bales No. 10s., 640 bales No. 12s., 1,677 bales No. 16s., and 4,475 bales No. 20s., prices showing an improvement of one Tael and in market closing steady.

Japanese:—There has been a good demand and about 3,500 bales are reported to have changed hands, say at Tls. 86 1/2 to 91 for No. 10s., and Tls. 90 to 94 1/2 for No. 20s., prices showing an advance of one Tael and market closing strong.

Local:—Have been in limited enquiry, sales only amounting to about 7,000 bales, say No. 12s. at Tls. 80, No. 14s. at Tls. 80 to 82, and No. 16s. at Tls. 83 to 83 1/2.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 7th November.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$84.00 to \$125.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00
	per piece.
COTTON PIECE GOODS—	
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.....	2.20 to 2.30
7 lbs.....	2.30 to 2.50
8.4 lbs.....	3.10 to 3.77 1/2
9 to 10 lbs.....	3.85 to 5.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.61 to 2.99	
58 to 60 " 3.25 to 3.45	
64 to 66 " 3.55 to 5.35	
Fine.....	5.40 to 7.95
Book-folds.....	4.55 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.75 to 1.40
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....	1.90 to 2.15
7lbs. (32 ").....	2.20 to 2.50
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs.....	2.25 to 2.40
7lbs. (32 ").....	3.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.).....	3.20 to 3.75
Drills, English—40 yds., 13 1/2 to 14 lbs.).....	4.20 to 6.90

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1 1/2 to 8 lbs) 1.50 to 4.85

DAMASKS—

Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.27 to 0.60

Velveteens—18 in. 0.23 to 0.28

per dozen

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.37 to 5.00

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.65 to 2.25

Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.25 to 3.40

per piece

Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. 6.85 to 8.25

Assorted 7.00 to 9.40

Camlets—Assorted 15.50 to 34.00

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches) 12.50 to 17.00

Assorted 10.00 to —

per pair

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 0.65 to 0.80

Fine quality, 1.40 to 2.10

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod 4.65 to —

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng. 4.65 to —

Swedish Bar 4.70 to —

Small Round Rod 5.05 to —

Hoop 3/4 to 1 1/2 in., 6.50 to —

Wire, 16-25, 9.00 to —

Old Wire Rope 3.20 to —

Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 7.95 to —

Australian 7.95 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz 14 20 oz. 38.75 to —

Vivian's 14 20 oz. 39.00 to —

Elliot's 14 20 oz. 39.00 to —

Composition Nails..... 61.00 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs..... 39.00 to —

Tin..... 80.00 to —

box, per

Tin-Plates 8.15 to —

per cwt. case

Steel 1 to 2 6.50 to —

SUNDRIES—

Quicksilver 18.00 to —

per box.

Window Glass 5.75 to —

per 10-gal. case

Kerosene Oil..... 2.61 to —

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 7th November.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1.77
Bank Bills, on demand	1.77
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1.77
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1.81
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1.81
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1.81
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.07
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.11
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.69
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	40
Credits, 60 days' sight	41
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	123
Bank, on demand	123
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	123
Bank, on demand	123
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73
Private, 30 days' sight	74
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	25 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	99
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$12.07
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$62.95
BAR SILVER per oz.	23 1/8

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 7th November.—Business has been quieter during the week under review, but market values continue to be generally well maintained.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been booked at \$627 1/2 and \$630, and close firm. London has advanced to £64. 10s. Nationals continue on offer at \$27.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold and are in further request at \$460. China Traders can be placed at the improved rate of \$62. Yangtzes are quiet at \$131. Cantons can be procured at \$167 1/2.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are on offer at \$350. Chinas have been disposed of at \$85 1/2 and \$86 and close with sellers at the higher rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been booked at \$37, \$37 1/2 and \$37 1/2, closing with some sellers at the latter rate. Indo-Chinas, after sales at \$96 and \$ 6 1/2, are firmer in sympathy with an improvement in the north, and are now quoted at \$98. China Manilas can be placed at \$26. Douglases are enquired for at \$41 after sales at \$40 and \$40 1/2. Star Ferries (old) have been booked at \$23; the new issue is steady at \$13. Shell Transports are procurable at £1. 17s. 6d.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued in fair request, and sales at \$100, \$101, and \$102 have been effected, the market closing with sellers at \$103. Luzons are still enquired for at \$15.

MINING.—Punjoms are offering at \$24 after sales at \$2 1/2 and \$2 60. Raubs are in the market at \$7. Jebebus can still be obtained at \$14.

DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been sold at \$217 1/2 and close steady. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been booked at \$89 to \$90, closing with further buyers at the higher rate. New Amoy Docks are unchanged at \$37 buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold at \$ 86 and \$185 and close with sellers at the former quotation. Kowloon Lands are steady with probable buyers at \$30. West Points are wanted at \$48. Humphreys Estates have further improved to \$124 with sales at the rate. Hongkong Hotels have continued in strong demand and are now wanted at \$136. Oriente Hotels are quieter at \$40.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have been sold at \$17 and are in further request. We have heard of no local business in the northern stock.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have improved to \$21, at which however a few

shares are obtainable. A. S. Watsons continue in demand at \$15. Electrics (old) have sold at \$13 and (new) at \$6 1/2, and continue in request. Ropes are quieter again at \$125 with probable sellers. United Asbestos (Ordinaries) are wanted at \$84. China Providents are offering at \$10, after sales at \$97 and \$9.85. Powells are wanted at \$81.

MEMOS.—Punjom Mining Co. Ltd. extraordinary general meeting on the 11th instant. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. Ltd. adjourned half-yearly meeting on the 18th instant. China Traders' ordinary yearly meeting on the 25th instant: transfer books close on the 11th instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$630, buyers (London, £64. 10s.)
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	48	\$27, sellers
B. Shares	28	\$27, sellers
Four. Shares	21	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos B. A.	21	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$35.
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$30, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$10, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$103, sellers
Cigar Companies		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, buyers
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$4, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 38, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40.
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 36.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17, sales
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$49.
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$21.
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13, sales & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$345.
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$9.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$136, sales & buys
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240.
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$90, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$125.
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$217 1/2, sales
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$167 1/2, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$86, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$62, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$30, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 177 1/2, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$1.
Union	\$50	\$460, sales & buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$161.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$186, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12 1/2.
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30.
West Point Building	\$50	\$48, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$15, buyers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$20, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$660, sellers
Jebebus	\$5	\$14, sellers
Punjom	\$10	\$24, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1, sellers
Raubs	18	\$7, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$63	\$37, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$40.
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$81, buyers
Robinson Piano Co. Ltd.	\$50	\$50.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$26, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$41, buyers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$37 1/2, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	210	\$98.
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	21	£1. 17s. 6d.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$23, sales
Tebrau-Planting Co.	\$5	\$13.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$81.
Do.	\$10	\$155.
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$19 1/2, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$7, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$15, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 7th November.—Since last report, freights have declined. From Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents last and 16 cents per picul offering for medium sized carriers; to Philippines, 32 cents last, but no further demand at the moment; to one port north coast Java, 25 cents per picul. From Bangkok to Hongkong, 30 and 25 cents per picul. From north coast Java to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul for wet and 20 cents per picul for dry sugar. From Iloilo to Japan, 31 cents per picul last. From Newchwang to Canton, several steamers have been fixed at 39 and 40 cents per picul and one without 'twen decks, at 35 cents, and more tonnage might be placed at 37 and 38 cents according to size. Coal freights are firm. From Moji to Hongkong, \$2.70 per ton; to Singapore, \$2.60; to Manila, \$3.50. Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.80 last. Time charters. The Norwegian s.s. Skramstad has been chartered for Shanghai account (coal trade), the Hansa for Japan, the Gaea for Singapore, the Saga presumably for Singapore and the Heim for Hongkong. The following are the settlements:—

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul (24,000 piculs).

Pronto—Norwegian steamer, 837 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul (27,000 piculs).

Diamante—British steamer, 1,255 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 39 1/2 cents per picul (25/30,000 piculs).

Frithjof—Norwegian steamer, 891 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 39 cents per picul (30,000 piculs).

Elita Nossack—German steamer, 1,161 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 38 cents per picul (30,000 piculs).

Doris—Norwegian steamer, 965 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 35 cents per picul (27,000 piculs).

Picciola—German steamer, 875 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, 40 cents per picul.

Benmohr—British steamer, 1,935 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.60 per ton (part cargo).

Shakano Maru—Japanese steamer, 2,064 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.65 per ton (part cargo).

Aragonia—German steamer, 3,324 tons, Moji or Karatsu to Singapore, \$2.60 per ton.

Deramore—Norwegian steamer, 1,479 tons, Hongkong to Hongay, \$1.80 per ton.

Deramore—Norwegian steamer, 1,479 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$1.80 per ton.

Tailee—German steamer, 828 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 32 and 27 cents per picul

Karin—Swedish steamer, 698 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 27 and 32 cents per picul.

Emma Luyken—German steamer, 1,109 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Manila, 30 cents per picul.

Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, Saigon to Manila, 32 cents per picul.

Else—German steamer, 903 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 31 cents per picul.

Hansa—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, 34 cents per picul.

Hansa—German steamer, 1,201 tons, monthly, 6 months, private terms.

Gaea—Norwegian steamer, 624 tons, monthly, 9 months, \$5.35 per month (recharter).

Skramstad—Norwegian steamer, 759 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$5.350 per month (recharter).

Saga—Norwegian steamer, 699 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$5,300 per month.

Heim—Norwegian steamer, 754 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$1,500 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Hitachi Maru (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.), Benmohr (str.).

FOR LONDON.—Chusan (str.), Glenartney (str.), Menelaus (str.), Java (str.), Agamemnon (str.), Tantalus (str.), Hitachi Maru (str.), Ulysses (str.), Peleus (str.), Antenor (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.), Benmohr (str.).

FOR LIVERPOOL.—Deucalion (str.), Pingsuey (str.), Alcinous (str.).

FOR AMSTERDAM.—Tantalus (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—Annam (str.), Hitachi Maru (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.), Java (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—Sachsen (str.), Serbia (str.).

FOR HAYRE AND HAMBURG.—Sazonia (str.), Serbia (str.), Marburg (str.), Suevia (str.), Alesia (str.), Nurnberg (str.), Silesia (str.).

FOR TRIESTE.—Marquis Bacquehem (str.).

FOR GENOA.—Bisagio (str.), Benmohr (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Shawmut (str.), Moyune (str.), Iyo Maru (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.), Tartar (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—Lowther Castle (str.), Charles Tiberghien (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

November—

ARRIVALS.

2. Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
2. Apenrade, German str., from Hoihow.
2. Fungshun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
2. Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
2. Nanchang, British str., from Java.
2. Sado Maru, Japanese str., from London.
2. Shanghai, British str., from London.
2. Tsintau, German str., from Bangkok.
2. Victoria, Swedish str., from Straits.
2. Waterwitch, British s.v., from Mirs Bay.
3. Choyssang, British str., from Canton.
3. Elita Nossack, Ger. str., from K'chauwan.
3. Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.
3. Hupph, British str., from Shanghai.
3. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
3. Kaiser Karl VI., Aust. cr., from Singapore.
3. Picciola, German str., from Iloilo.
3. Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
3. Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
3. Taishun, Chinese str., from Canton.
3. Theodor Wille, Ger. str., from K'notzu.
3. Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
4. Bi-agnio, Italian str., from Bombay.
4. Chinkiang, British str., from Wuhu.
4. Doris, Norwegian str., from Canton.
4. Dott, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
4. Eros, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
4. Hansa, British str., from Samarang.
4. Kampot, French str., from Saigon.
4. Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
4. Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
4. Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
4. Nippon Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
4. Prometheus, Norw. str., from Hamburg.
4. Pronto, German str., from Wuhu.
4. Wosang, British str., from Wuhu.
5. Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.
5. Elso, German str., from Wuhu.
5. Humber, British storeship, from Shanghai.
5. Kwang Tah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
5. Kweiyang, British str., from Tientsin.
5. Saxonia, German str., from Shanghai.
5. Skuld, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
5. Suisang, British str., from Samarang.
5. Triumph, German str., from Wuhu.
6. Baikal, French str., from Saigon.
6. Canton, British str., from Canton.
6. Catherine Apar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
6. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
6. Haiching, British str., from Canton.
6. P. C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
6. Shawmut, British str., from Manila.
6. Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
6. Tacoma, American str., from Tacoma.
6. Tantalus, British str., from Liverpool.
7. Chiquita, German str., from Bangkok.
7. Chu-sau, British str., from Shanghai.
7. Gaea, Norwegian str., from Wuhu.
7. Haiphong, French str., from Haiphong.
7. Indrapura, British str., from Portland.
7. Mercedes, British trspt., from Wellington.
7. Parramatta, British str., from Bombay.
7. Quang-nam, French str., from Saigon.
7. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
7. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
7. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.

November—

DEPARTURES.

3. Asashio, Japanese destroyer, for Japan.
3. Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
3. Fungshun, Chinese str., for Canton.
3. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
3. Hong Bee, British str., for Amoy.
3. Hupeh, British str., for Canton.
3. Phra-C. Klao, German str., for Bangkok.
3. Sado Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
3. Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
3. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
4. Alesia, German str., for Shanghai.
4. Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
4. Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
4. Bangkok, German str., for Bangkok.
4. Benmohr, British str., for Nagasaki.
4. Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
4. Chinkiang, British str., for Canton.
4. Choyssang, British str., for Shanghai.
4. Diamante, British str., for Newchwang.
4. Doris, British str., for San Francisco.
4. Doris, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
4. Duke ofife, British str., for Tacoma.
4. Hermann Menzell, Ger. str., for Chinkiang.
4. Ingalls, American trspt., for Manila.
4. Kaga Maru, Japanese str., for Seattle.
4. Kagoshima Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.

4. Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
4. Shanghai, British str., for Shanghai.
4. Taishun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
4. Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
5. Anping Maru, Jap. str., for Coast Ports.
5. Cheltenham, British str., for Rangoon.
5. Daphne, German str., for Amoy.
5. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
5. Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
5. Loyal, German str., for Bangkok.
5. Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
5. Prometheus, Norw. str., for Vladivostock.
5. Pronto, German str., for Canton.
5. Rubi, British str., for Manila.
5. Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.
5. Victoria, Swedish str., for Amoy.
5. Wosang, British str., for Canton.
6. Decima, German str., for Swatow.
6. Deramore, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
6. Dott, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
6. Kolsichang, German str., for Bangkok.
6. Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.
6. Madeleine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Saigon.
6. Petrarch, German str., for Shanghai.
6. Triumph, German str., for Canton.
6. Waterwitch, British s.s., for a cruise.
7. Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Chwanshan, British str., for Amoy.
7. Eros, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
7. Fungshun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
7. Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
7. J. Diederichsen, German str., for Hoihow.
7. Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
7. Kwangping, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
7. Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
7. Lyndhurst, British 4-m. bark, for Java.
7. Tantalus, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Tsintau, German str., for Bangkok.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Alesia*, from Singapore, Messrs. Biether and Robinson.

Per *Oceana*, from Caroline Islands, Messrs. Stickel, Ellis and Break.

Per *Inaba Maru*, from Shanghai, &c., for Hongkong, Mrs. B. James, Mrs. Clutter, Miss Dawson, Messrs. Roitsudo and Y. Horu; for Singapore, Messrs. E. P. Lowe, C. Harries and K. Arita. Mrs. K. Nakano and Mrs. S. Fukuyama; for Penang, Mr. M. A. E. Jiva; for Colombo, Lieut.-General Y. Oku, Major M. Yui, Capt. S. Ito and Capt. T. Utoka; for Port Said, Mr. W. G. Vandiver; for Marseilles, Mrs. J. Thomas, Mrs. T. Kato, Master Kato, Mrs. Matsumura, Capt. M. Kawada and M. Hirase; for London, Mrs. and Miss Maclellan, Mrs. H. Haruto, Miss S. Miyagawa, Messrs. W. N. Dawning, Y. Matsudaira, C. Yokohama, T. Nakaoji, S. Saito and K. Yebihara.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Stockhausen, Capt. N. A. Holbrook, U.S.N., Messrs. Leshman and Stockhausen.

Per *Thales*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. C. Fockey and three children, Mrs. and Miss Tatae, Messrs. J. G. Drew, M. G. Walker and E. T. Fesley.

Per *Sydney*, from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Lannay, Messrs. Henry Pick, Stubbings, Jean Dumas, Jean Combalbert, Jules Maneron and A. Kappler and two children.

Per *Shanghai*, from London, for Hongkong, Mrs. Buck and Engr. M. R. Oliver; for Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss Ford, Mrs. D. Taylor and infant, Messrs. G. Howard, O. Scoll and Gillard; for Yokohama, Mr. E. Morris.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. G. V. Nuttall and G. Dumoies; from Kobe, Messrs. Taniguchi, Natsukawa and Nakajuna; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Bomoff and Mr. Le Moine; from Shanghai, Mr. Mrs. and Miss R. B. Moorhead, Mrs. Marie I. strella, Rev. Demange, Messrs. Karl Konie' Robineau, J. M. Beck, G. S. Little, J. Gosman, Cecil Nimpson, H. Haardt, F. S. M. Gutierrez, J. J. Gutierrez (2), J. Devos, Brandt Alfred, Takesta, Namin, Willis, J. W. Len, Aug. Roberts, C. A. Roberts, R. M. Roberts, Belizer, Murray, Bardin, B. Albert and Peliot; for Saigon, from Yokohama, Messrs. Kani Fukui and Ricardo Motta; from Kobe, Messrs. Masuda and Yamaguchi; from Nagasaki, Messrs. du Bourg and Deprat; from Shanghai, Messrs. Dupont and Perone; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mrs. Robertson and Mr. Uskelly; for Colombo, from Yokohama, Major and Mrs. Smithe; from

Nagasaki, Mr. Fressabin; for Bombay, from Yokohama, Mr. Merino; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Thebaud and Mr. Oda; from Nagasaki, Messrs. Mahias, Maziere, Bene, Ferlicot, Rion, Danter, Tangery, Rebours, Berisen, Getiu, Le Petit, Laurens, Pelle, Abraham, Mare, Le Roy, Gainde, Georget, Menguy and Dare; from Shanghai, Mrs. Lavel, Rev. Wetterwald, Messrs. Barran, Porrien, L. Bridon, Dally, Brochier, Mignol, Guinaf, Kerrien, Carion, P. M. Buguel, J. Meneul and Roach.

Per *Hupei*, from Shanghai, Mr. Gordon.

Per *Sado Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. H. Underwood, Mrs. Grace, Mrs. W. S. Birdwood, Mrs. Valentine and child, Mrs. M. Purves and two children, Mrs. E. Houghton, Mr. and Mrs. L. Brett and three children, Mr. and Mrs. I. Hood, Messrs. W. Milward, Ball, A. C. Davis, S. Dorey and C. Hough; for Kobe, Mrs. Matt Smith, Miss Fooley, Rev. A. B. Turner, Messrs. A. Forsyth and John Wright; for Yokohama, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Chandiram, Consul-General and Mrs. Arakawa and three children, Mrs. Nakamura, Miss Y. Kawasaki, Master Y. Kadono, Major K. Matsusi, Messrs. W. Natori, M. Hashiguchi and Y. Tsukamoto.

Per *Machew*, from Bangkok, Mr. Robertson.

Per *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Roys, Mr. and Mrs. A. Rivera, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Fitzgerald, Dr. and Mrs. E. Beers, Mrs. G. Harris, Mrs. L. Chapman, Mrs. C. Oakes, Mrs. E. Morrison, Mrs. B. Vance, Mrs. M. Stephenson, Mrs. C. Richards, Prof. O. D. Wannamaker, Messrs. F. A. Seymour, J. W. Brown, S. Hara, S. Kurosawa, Chas. A. Moikelham, W. Borthwick, W. W. Rich, and Jno. Reid, jun.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Munty, Messrs. C. Hoffewter, C. Lopez, C. Hobson, G. de Loof, D. M. Mickle, C. W. Clarke, C. C. Yep, R. B. Manter, J. D. Murray, D. S. Williams, H. W. King, C. N. Farnshaw, W. Brown, C. P. Paget, C. Harding and Dr. Sanger.

Per *Kweiyang* from Tientsin, &c., Messrs. Hamilton, Spampani, Piper and Newberry.

Per *Tantalus*, from Singapore, Capt. Jones.

Per *Tacoma* from Tacoma, Miss Hewitt.

Per *Catherine Apar*, from Calcutta, &c., Mrs. Belson and child.

DEPARTED.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Hongkong, for Brisbane, Mr. J. T. Arundel; for Sydney, Mrs. D. Oliver, Mrs. E. H. Ferrer, Mrs. A. Chee and children, Mrs. Koh Soy, Mrs. C. Chong, Mrs. E. W. B. Craig, Major H. P. Tomkinson, Messrs. A. MacWille, H. Oberhammer, D. Oliver, J. S. Lynch, E. D. Bell, J. Morton, D. A. Solomon, S. Nakatsumi, A. Chee, C. Chong, E. W. B. Craig and Dukes; for Melbourne, Miss J. Menzies, Messrs. J. Manners Hill, H. Brown, D. Murphy and W. Hendersn.

Per *Sydney*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. G. Sperry, Messrs. F. Groning, C. Hoppenberg, Grosvenor Perfect, G. Harling, J. B. Beattie, W. F. McLaughlin, B. Cameron, R. Livingstone and W. Hammerley.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Saigon, Messrs. L. Boutinon and J. Hinh; for Singapore, Messrs. Montague Hell, T. Binnie, R. Hease, Ressel, L. del Rosario and G. Canivello; for Colombo, Mr. M. Mehta and son; for Bombay, Mr. K. A. Chinoy; for Marseilles, Mr. A. Manuel.

Per *Doris*, for Shanghai, Mrs. G. Harry Dann, Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Wright, Mrs. J. Valentine, Master Valentine, Messrs. W. D. Morey and Schultze; for Yokohama, Miss Kate A. West and Mr. C. D. Coffin; for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Rublee and Master Rublee, Lieut. W. D. Leahy, U.S.N., Major Wilcox, U.S.A., Dr. J. Sanger, Messrs. H. M. Bosch, L. Roca, Whitman Symmes and Chas. Hobson.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila, Mrs. B. Witt, Dr. and Mrs. Beer, Messrs. Wm. N. Downing, G. J. Kavanaugh, S. R. Price, T. A. Seymour, J. Bardient, J. W. Grandy, E. I. Dyer, L. Wilhelm, M. Gaites, M. Robemair, A. A. Moss, K. Gormal and Chas. Collingnon.

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